METAL MAGAZINE

RULES!

"Where the Underground meets the Playground."

ISSUE 4
WINTER?

• JESUS BUILT MY HOT ROD AND JEFF INTERVIEWS MICHAEL SWEET •

ALSO INCLUDED: PUNISHER • HOLY MOTHER • DEATH ANGUS • GAFFI STICKS • XIBALA • VWF

METAL RULES!™
MAGAZINE

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Metal Rules! Magazine back issues still available in extremely limited quantities!!!!!

A Moment With Jeff...

Wow!! It's been just under one year and here comes the big #4!!! We hope to bring this to you quarterly. We have been successful thus far. If it takes a few weeks longer, here and there, then believe it, it will be worth it! My Editors and I have stressed ourselves out to the max to better each issue than the last! It's no easy task, believe me. This issue has been printed in 1,000's of copies and if we run out, we're going to print more!!! This needs to be in the hands of Metalheads everywhere!!! I think with this issue we have the greatest cover in the history of Metal publication! The insides have become even more bizarre, but always accessible! I fuckin' LOVE Metal to no end and I hope that feeling pours out at you as you read this! One thing may puzzle you if you're new to this magazine (or a reader since issue#1. Ha! Ha!) is why all these pictures of me? I think with issue four we have the greatest cover in the history of ANY Metal publication. Do I have an ego problem? No.(Well, maybe a little.) Am I out of Metal photos and CD covers to scan? No friggin' way! The reason I do this is because I want this to be different and do something that will stand out in your mind. I also want you to be able to know me, and read this as if I was there having a conversation with you without you having to smell my bad breath and stinky ass!! With each issue this grows in Readership to where it's becoming a monster! I love it! We have an extremely open mind to the many genres of Metal in here. You'll find great representation in both the Interviews and even more so in the Reviews. If you find one style receiving more reviews it's only because I received more to review of that style. I don't play favorites. All Metal is for me! Once again, thanks to the chosen few who deserve it! You know who you are! Also a stiff middle finger to the others that proved to me how worthless they were! I know, you know who you are. If not, you're even dumber than I thought. The theme of this issue is my Wedding! That means I can think of no other person better to dedicate this issue to...My lovely wife, Maria!! You are everything to me!!! Remember the Underground is what you make of it. Support the smaller labels, unsigned bands and zines by purchasing their product. Put a special order in for shit that your local Music establishment doesn't carry and send away for Demo's and zines. Don't be a lazy ass your whole life. The Post Office is not that far away!!! Now Read on!!!!

Ad space is available for issue #5 and #6. Contact me ASAP! All Distributors, stores owners and managers, and other people that would like to bring this to their local stores to earn some extra cash (and to be my friend. Wheeee!) get in touch for Consignment/Wholesale Rates and possible trade terms. All bands, labels and zines send your stuff in for a fair review and possible interview! Issue's #1, #2 and #3 are available for only $4 each(USA) or $6each(Rest of World) and our brand new Killer T-Shirts are available for only $12 (Worldwide). Sizes available are (L,XL, XXL) Make checks payable to Jeff Rappaport and yes, I take cash stupid!! (Extremely Limited!) Send to Metal Rules! Magazine, c/o Jeff Rappaport, 2116 Sandra Road, Voorhees, New Jersey 08043. Email: metaljef@cyberEnet.net Check out out website at: www.haddons.com/metalrules Metal Rules! Magazine is not affiliated with the online zine www.metal-rules.com

Night of the Living Titties

First and foremost, I want to say that everything written here is true(to the best of my knowledge) and that no malice is intended toward anyone living or dead who was present the night of Jeff's party. That party in question being Jeff's bachelor party; which wasn't really a party in the traditional sense, meaning cake and punch and all that type shit, but more a gathering of friends wanting to wish Jeff good luck on his impending nuptials. Before you think that we all sat around telling him 'good luck, pal' and what a fine wife Maria would make', you are sadly mistaken. It was more along the lines of, 'I wanna see some sluts', and 'I want to be bruised about the head and shoulders by some D-cups'. Of course we wished him and Maria well and all, but we had one purpose that night—no, two purposes, one- get drunk as humanly possible, and two- see as much nudity and naked women as our little brains could process.

The first purpose was easily accomplished, there was much beer, and every guy that arrived brought more. The second purpose, in a way, was helped along by Maria, the blushing bride. She didn't have as many girls as we had guys and their limo was late. They left about 15 minutes before the dude arrived; and not wanting to waste a stretch limousine with all the niceties: tv, stereo, bar and all types of stuff to annoy the driver with; we set out on our adventure. The only mistake was bringing that keg of Killian's Red with us in the limo, which, according to some of our more uninhibited fellows, is good for the skin and clothes as well as being a damn good beer. It's also a good leather cleaner as the driver soon found out. We had a fairly huge entourage, with 10 guys stuffed into the limo(it looked bigger on the outside) and about 4 or more cars following. Our first stop was WaWa's(yes, the convenience store)to get some snacks and disposable cameras. Later on we discovered, or more to the point, I discovered, that you can't take snapshots in strip clubs. So I wasted film on pictures of Jeff and the rest of us doing things you probably shouldn't have any photographic evidence of, and let me tell you, Jeff is quite the man!

We arrived at our first destination, CHEERLEADERS, right across the Walt Whitman on Packer Ave. and the parking lot was mobbed! You had minivans and buses and shit, I thought this was gonna be the spot! It turned out to be a spot! It was small. If you popped a chubbie, you'd have to go outside to enjoy it! I did like the layout of the place, though. The small display area for the girls was between the bar so if you had a drink you viewed some ass. Just ass, maybe a little tit, and some good posing, which was enough for me. Giggling into my beer like a little boy who just discovered the joys of masturbation, I was content. I even got me a nice lap dance from some Afro-Asian chocolate honey creme type bitch with a big tight ass and even tighter titties. I enjoyed it more than I should've(I'm married)but I still wish I wore some fuckin' sweat pants, damn! Before long a cry rang out(from Jeff)"I want to see some sluts! I want bush, pubes, more nipplege!!" and from an almost unlikely source, "Where's the pussy?" We looked to see who uttered the question we all wanted an answer to—Ernie! (that lovable fireman with the rosy cheeks, who also is Jeff's stepfather) so we left the relative safety of CHEERLEADERS to a place deep in the dark territory of Philadelphia's northeast.

We came to a place situated in an area where the words 'urban blight' would describe it's good qualities. Half a block down from a massive building that dynamite would only improve its look, was DAYDREAMS-where dreams come true (read its gigantic hot pink neon sign that even a blind man could see!) inside a renovated warehouse or factory or something. The limo driver parked and we all got out and relieved ourselves against the wall, I suppose it was because of our anticipation of what was to come, more likely it was the beer. I was quite excited, I had never seen or been inside a place quite like this, it was almost scary. My camera was confiscated by some dude who you don't want to see in the daylight, let alone at night, and we were scanned for weapons and shit and directed to the double doors leading into the place. We were all jumping around waiting to pay our 15 dollar admission, which we did

gladly 'cause we knew that what we wanted to see don't come cheap! Once your eyes adjusted to the smoky interior, you noticed that the floor was damp and dirty, like if you dropped a twenty on the floor you would debate long and hard about picking it up. Then you noticed that everyone in here had there own supply of beer—12 packs, cases, eightballs and kegs, whatever you could carry in-buckets of beer! Bags of ice were everywhere! But no matter how hard your dick got, or how drunk you were, you didn't walk away from your stash. I guess that's why the floor was so wet! (that's my story and I'm stickin' to it) Around the stage which was very long and narrow, were 3 circular platforms, mini stages if will, which had some females the likes of which I have never seen before, not overly beautiful like Playboy bunnies, but twice as nekkid! These girls might as well be inside out, they were so naked! They had shoes on, though; because the floor was wet from the ice. (yeah—the ice) Jeff got his wish, these girls were sluts, but to me they were sluts you could still take home to mama. Ernie got his wish too, 'cause if you didn't see any pussy, you just weren't lookin'! And they showed you the pussy! No shame to these ladies game. It was a hell-luva show. The main stage had two poles at opposite ends that rose to the ceiling, keep in mind that this is a warehouse, so those poles were 20-25ft. at least. These women were like circus performers! They would handcuff a guy to a chair with the back against the pole and just do him! With his clothes on they would cover him in whipped cream, squirt it down his shirt, his pants, on their breast and they would just jack him up! Walk all on you with stiletto heels, slap you in the face with their tits, and rub their asses and pussies all over you!! It was wild! Just the thing for Jeff! He had three or four girls give him a cream facial. One chick almost broke his glasses, she hit him with a tit so hard! He didn't get this one girl, though who must have been a cowboy, she was riding this guy so rough. It looked like she was fuckin' him to pieces! She had him by the hair, and was whippin' his

head back and forth and was grindin' his dick to dust! It looked painful. But if that didn't get you going, she climbed to the top of the pole and slid down doin' about mach 3 and landed squarely in your crotch! That HAD to hurt. And she was such a little thing, too. No taller than five-two. Small but perky tits, tight little ass, it was great! After a while we found this blond amazon to give Jeff the obligatory lap dance. She was just incredible! This bitch would hurt you good! The total package! Jeff looked a little afraid, but he stood tall, I was proud of him! After about 45 minutes, he returned, a little banged-up and muttering some shit about doing something illegal; but grinning just the same. By that time, those who had come on their own filtered out one by one, leaving because of retina damage or beer poisoning, who knows? It was getting late, besides we had a wedding to go to the next day. We had to gear up for more drinking! We lost a couple of our limo group, but fuck 'em, they're grown men. We left DAYDREAMS with no regrets, no beer, no communicable diseases and almost no money, but a good time was had by all!

-Edward

We had pictures of the party but, unfortunately the BIG burley bouncers decided that they wanted them more than we did... ...bitches

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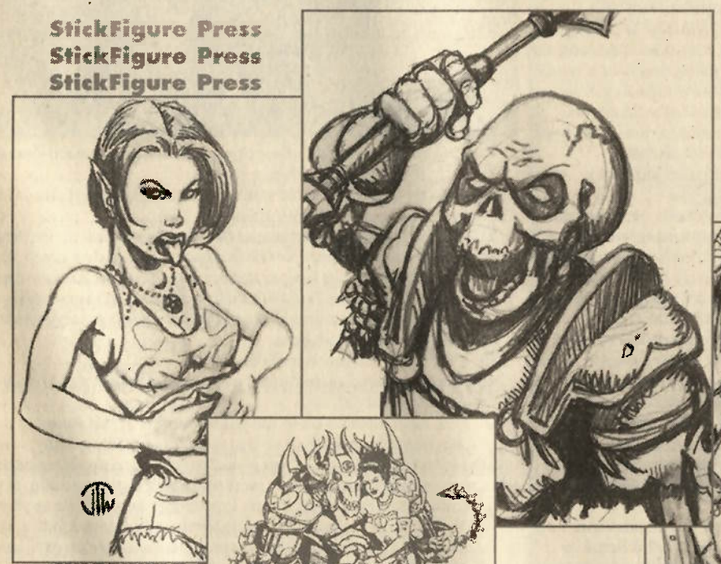

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PUNISHER INTERVIEW

Metal Rules: Tell us about the groovy music you lads make.

PUNISHER: We are a modern Thrash band with roots and a history. PUNISHER has been around for 9 years and this is our first attempt at a full length CD. We are trying to fuse some of the older sounds with new orchestrations and put some soul and fire back into technical passages, song writing and solos. We set up our music so all the instruments get a chance to speak, no confinement for anybody! We are just being our own freaky selves and staying as original as possible. As far as how it sounds? Well I think people need to order the CD or go pick it up at the store to really understand what our music is all about. We have been compared to everybody from MEGADETH to FORCED ENTRY to TESTAMENT, and guess what? We do not sound like any of these bands; there are influences from all over the Metal genre but no direct cliches. Some say Death metal vocals some say Thrash but in the end it is PUNISHER and nothing else. Oh God I think I am getting boring! Basically we are here to kick you in the face and torment our instruments.

MR: How is the scene currently in the Bay Area?

PUN: Oh Dude! What Scene?!?! It is a pop culture now! A few bands get a draw and get the good shows other than that it is all under ground baby! which is the way we like it. We just had a really good show on Halloween and lots of people were there to see it. Actually it has been growing here lately and there is a metal show almost every week including bigger bands like SLAYER, SEPULTURA and CRADLE OF FILTH. The bar scene is getting better to because of PUNISHER, ENTHRONED, IMAGIKA OSMIUM and a few others helping out. DEICIDE is playing the Friday after thanksgiving in San Jose so that should be cool. Of course MACHINE HEAD rages once in a while and that scene is always strong. But the former Metal glory that the Bay Area use to be known for is still a long way off and all of us locals are plugging away until we got the promoters where we want them! All in all it used to be a lot worse between 93 and 96.

MR: Ever see any of the big names from the old days slumming around the clubs?

PUN: Those grandpas must be in there rocking chairs because I don't see any old schoolers at the bigger underground shows. Those bands usually wait for the bigger names to come through and then they will be at the shows. They definitely do not play out much anymore around here either so it is a little if not a lot dis appointing. Those bands like EXODUS, MEGADETH, TESTAMENT and of course METALLICA made the scene what it was in the glory days and now MACHINE HEAD seems to be the only band concerned with playing in the Bay Area 2 times a year. TESTAMENT'S last gig here was in San Jose way over a year ago. These guys and a lot of others are way over due!

MR: What do you think of the new wave of bands from your area like Skin Lab and Machine Head? Do you dig it or would you prefer to hear their older incarnations which were DEFIANCE and VIO-LENCE?

PUN: Those bands are some seriously heavy shit man! I also was a big fan of VIO-LENCE in there hey day and PUNISHER actually played a show with DEFIANCE in 1992. It would be a lot better if there were not so many bands trying to achieve the same sound. I totally fucking hate all that groove garbage musical plagiarist bull shit and that is why we need a lot more diversity from metal bands in this area. MACHINE HEAD has there own heavy sound because they are MACHINE HEAD and any other band trying to achieve that sound will fail miserably until they find there own sound.

MR: Did you ever find any interesting uses for a shoehorn besides the obvious like making Minestrone soup?

PUN: 1)Take one football helmet with out a facemask. 2) Drill 2 holes on the top of the helmet approximately where SATAN'S horns are located. 3) Attach a shoehorn in each hole and secure with sheet metal screws and silicone.4) Lower your head and charge into the nearest mosh pit. Actually I considered using a shoehorn to

slap students hand's when they play their instrument wrong. It has got to hurt more than a ruler.

MR: What do you think of the comic book the Punisher? Does it have anything to do with your name?

PUN: I always thought that one of the next biggest bands in Metal would use the name PUNISHER but no one did, so I took it. A name is a name as long as it describes the music and that is why I chose it. I do like THE PUNISHER comic as it is very violent and dark but I never thought that I took the name just because it is (was) a comic book hero.

MR: Are you disillusioned and confused?

PUN: Totally, everyday and night without a doubt!!! Am I really the only one who is?

MR: How does it feel to be in the world famous ***Metal Rules! Magazine*** especially since this is the big wedding issue?

PUN: It fucking rules and I am proud to be a Musician/American!

MR: Do you feel lousy that you weren't invited to the wedding even though I invited Pauly Shore, Carrot Top, Frank Stallone, Rip Taylor, Soupy Sales, Jim Varney, Menudo and Air Supply? After all you didn't get to share the day with us and those huge Heavy Metal Stars that I just mentioned did.

PUN: Damn am I pissed! I would love to get MENUDO really drunk and then show them how to sing PUNISHER songs. Pauly is actually an old bong hit buddy of mine and I am sure he will be angry with you about not inviting us. He might even sick AIR SUPPLY on you or worse- have them play at your reception!!!

MR: Who are each of your picks for the woman you would most like to bang?

PUN: PAT- Roseanne Bar because she would be a fat, evil fuck! MIKE- Sandra Bullock. IZAC- Any stripper will do.

MR: Tell us your favorite venereal disease story that you have experienced.

PUN: One of our former bass players had this super fine girl friend but she was like a slut. Well he got herpes on his face and when it broke out we called it the "creeping crud" it was severely brutal. Do not ever judge a book by its cover and use plastic wrap as a mouth condom. I suggested that he use a shoehorn to bring the swelling down by putting it in the freezer and then applying the cold shoehorn to the infected site.

MR: What major bands have you played with and who would you like to perform with? (Don't list 900 bands like all the other clowns I interview.)

PUN: KILLERS (Paul DiAnno's band) DEFIANCE, DEATH ANGEL and we hope to soon open for SLAYER, MACHINE HEAD, FEAR FACTORY etc. They should bring back PEACHES and HERB and we'll tour with them.

MR: What are each of your favorite zines?

PUN: METAL RULES! (Big pause) I would like to say hi to Bill Zebub from the Grimoire; what's up Bill?! Phil from Brutalized! Adrian from PIT magazine! Steve from Metal Dreams! Phil from Sloth! Martha and Tonus from Bast and Extremities! Countless others, too many to list. Mostly underground! Hail all Mags/zines for you are all the true support!

MR: Now is your chance to talk shit about anybody you would like.

PUN: All the people I know that have always talked shit or dug a hole in front of us FUCK YOU! Oh well they probably don't know how to read anyway.

MR: Would you like to say hi to your mom like they always do on the tee-vee?

PUN: Oh Yeah! HI Mom I'M famous now but I wish this interview with Jeff of Metal Rules! was on TV.

MR: What do you think was the biggest Metal disappointment this year?

PUN: All that so-called Retro Thrash crap that is just a cheesy imitation of what the true glory of Thrash was. Hello? Let's modernize the style people! For me it had to be COAL CHAMBER, they suck and they should not even get a mention in this interview!

MR: Do you guys watch OZ and what characters are you most like? What character would you pick as your cellmate?

PUN: I would be the Wizard of course! Izac would be the Lion and Mike would have to be the Tin Man because he is a sheet metal journeyman. As far as cell mates? It would have to be Dorothy she was next down on the list of chicks I would most like to bang.

MR: If I come over house for supper would you get me a crazy straw for my chocolate milk and maybe have Grandma knit me a really keen afghan?

PUN: My house for dinner? Are you insane? You might get a swift kick in the ass for your trouble! All the band members eat at medieval times every night!

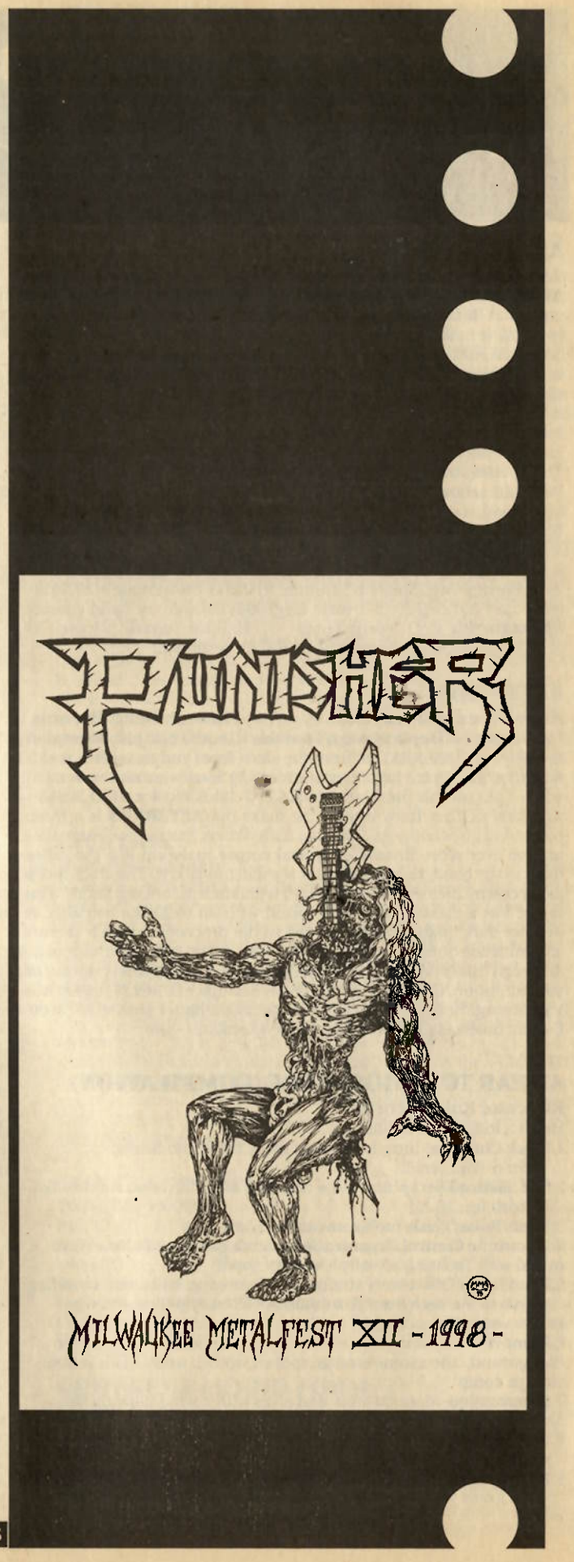
MR: Did you ever make a log so large you just had to share it with family, friends and the neighbors (Not Jim.)?

PUN: 2 footers daily man! Some times I twirl it up like a Hershey's kiss and it's really cool when there is green swirls in the design. I call it "Art of Shit Bung Ho".

MR: Tell us about all the shit you got for sale and stuff coming up. This is your last shot at getting the kids to buy your merchandise so make it good!

PUN: We have Disillusioned of course, stop depriving yourself and get it! Up and coming will be an EP followed by a full length CD next year. We also have a T-shirt coming, it is this guy with a guitar rammed down his throat and the headstock is bursting out his ass. Entrails everywhere! Really messy! Write to Confusion Records for any of this stuff and we will get you a free catalog. Confusion Records, 4 Meyer Place, Kentfield, CA 94904

Thanks for the interview Jeff all of us greatly appreciate your efforts.



Music Reviews

ABAZAGORATH

Tenebrarum Cadent Exsurgemus **Elegy Records**

ABAZAGORATH is the spirit of hate for mankind. The evil that emanates from this recording proves it. Of course the evil doesn't really translate in their physical appearance. MOGUL, WARHEAD, CROM, NYARLATHOTEP and CYTHRALL have names as confusing as the title of this release. They look like INSANE CLOWN POSSE rejects wearing old school Kerry King armlets. It's really hard for me to take seriously a Black Metal band from North Jersey, especially when this was recorded in Hackensack at Big Blue Meenie Studios. But the music is another story altogether. Musically it's rip-roaring evil Black Metal. The opening of this CD is one of the strongest intros I've ever heard. With old school influences such as BATHORY and HELLHAMMER mixed with a pure myriad of Norwegians finest, **ABAZAGORATH** is a Black Metal monster to do battle with. Also plenty of ethereal sounds and dark eerie passages are thrown in to make this a brutal yet melodic experience. Good stuff from my home state! Contact: Elegy Records 248 Lakeview Ave., Suite#319,Clifton, NJ 07011 USA Phone #(201)614-0670 fax#(201)365-2323 E-mail: Elegy666@aol.com or band contact **Abazagorath** C/O Nyarlathotep 32 Hillside Terrace, Wayne, NJ 07470 USA Enclose stamp/SASE or IRC for response.

AETERNUS

And so the night became... **Hammerheart Records**

I was a wee bit skeptical when I put this CD on. I had just listened to the hideous DESEKRATOR from the same label and to say it was shit would be paying it a large compliment. My fears were met with relief when I put on this fine Dark Metal CD. I didn't receive a CD booklet with this CD but from what I can make out **AETERNUS** is a three piece; two guys and a gal. The one dude Vrolok has the coolest make-up I've ever seen. Instead of typical corpse make-up like the other dude in the band, he looks like a scary skin monster(?) The chick looks like a creepy medieval biznitch with with ancient looking hands. The music has a classical overtone mixed with an exquisite brutality. A definite dark quality is felt over the whole proceeding which creates an ambience of evil proportions. You also get over an hour of music. Although this is drawn out in some portions, **AETERNUS** is worthy of your attention. Contact: Hammerheart Records P.O. Box 277, 6300 AG, Valkenburg, Holland Fax+31(0)046 4373800 Phone+31(0)46 4373600 E-mail: hhr@xs4all.nl web:http://www.xs4all.nl/~hhr

AN EAR TO ATMOSPHERE (COMPILATION)

Rack and Ruin Records

Here's a look at the bands!

1. **Black Chamber**-intro is a dentist drill...then onto British Techno-Pop..Yech!!
2. **She Silenced Seraphim**-some chanting and then what sounds like an Irish jig...Huh?
3. **Flesh/Pulse/Flesh**-funhouse music...Huh?
4. **Electronic Control Organization**-wanna guess?...80's New Wave mixed with Techno...actually it's pretty good!
5. **Dead Letter Office**-very strange female singing with weird sounding noises in the background..sounds like a rotary phone and who knows what else...odd! odd! odd!
6. **Rhinovirus**-a piano plays while dwarves and elves squeal in the background...then some strange spoken word?...wooo...This is one strange comp!
7. **Communion**-more dwarves and elves with a wind blowing like ambiance in the background
8. **Bacchus**-odd Techno that the hottest and strangest chick in the club will be dancing alone to...
9. **Rupert**-really bad but in a humorous way...a cover(?) of the song "I don't know you anymore"...I think it's a cover I know I've heard it before
10. **Chapel Blaque**-sounds like Death Metal but resembles Count Chocula when he starts to sing...another odd but cool tune
11. **Bio Feedback**-weird and you guessed it, plenty of feedback..added bonus of popping sounds and scratching
12. **Pulse**-heavy Industrial...angry vocals...good shit
13. **Big Mouse**-good moody background piece with synths and a pulse running through it
14. **Memory Without Pain**-weird sound effects...both spacey and a storm approaching variety

...As a whole I really enjoyed this CD. In fact, when I listened to it there was a terrible storm outside and that really set the mood. Maybe only one or two songs on here could be considered Metal but so what? This was just a great compilation of sounds. If any of you drop acid then forget about PINK FLOYD and listen to this. What we have here is a huge mass of creativeness. Highly recommended!! Contact for pricing: Rack and Ruin Records 722 Dennis Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20901 USA E-mail: Earsphere@aol.com

ASPHODEL

Autumnal ***Demo***

ASPHODEL of Greece comes to my tape deck to provide me with Doom-Rock/Metal with heavy RUSH influences thrown in. The vocals of Maria (She's hot by the way, just like my Maria!) sound like Geddy Lee singing underwater. They have their own original sound but this kind of thing is not for me. I do appreciate what they're doing and it doesn't make me queasy but it's not something I would grab for. Lead singer Maria also plays the accordion(?) which makes this different from the norm. Did I mention that she was hot? Anyway, if you're into Doom Rock driven by an accordion then check this out. This cassette is 1000 drs (Greece), $5 Europe or $6 Rest of World. Contact: **Asphodel** C/O Nikos Keranis Themistokleous 84, 154 51 N.Psychiko, Athens, Greece

BENGAL TIGERS

Fight For Your Right ***Demo***

I like the two leather clad Bengal bitches on the cover. The one is about to inject the other one with fluid, straight into the heinie! Yahoo! The first cut on this CD is the BEASTIE BOYS' "Fight For Your Right." When was this a good idea? Piss poor would be paying a compliment to this atrocious shit pile of a cover. Up next is their attempt at Power Metal "Mean Streets"(I'm so glad this wasn't them raping that cool VAN HALEN song) but the vocalist doesn't have enough range to pull this off effectively. The other two tracks are in the Cock-Rock style that they should stick to. "Do It" and "Hot Lips" are an improvement over last years "In One Ear" demo. If you like your Metal melodic, catchy and not too hard you can pick this up for $4.95 worldwide! Contact: **Bengal Tigers** P.O. Box 4, Holmesglen VIC, 3148 Australia Web Site :http://netcore.com.au/~bengals
E-mail: bengals@netcore.com.au

BENGAL TIGERS

In One Ear ***Demo***

Wow, here comes some Cock-Rock from the Outback. Do I get a bloomin' onion with this mate? The first track on here, "Pain", is reminiscent of true Metal but the rest of the tracks are pure Cock-Rock. This will get you either singing along or breaking your CD player, depending on the Metal you enjoy. **BENGAL TIGERS** have the basic skills but I would prefer if they tore it up a mite more. If they could work more on crankin' and some slammin' maybe they could reach heights that bands of their native Australia have reached. For example AC/DC and SILVERCHAIR are from the land of Koalas, hopefully they will reach their fame in the style of the former not the latter. Also, is it just me or does their name sound like a football team? The CD is $4.95 worldwide. (Contact address is above)

BLACK MASS OF ABSU

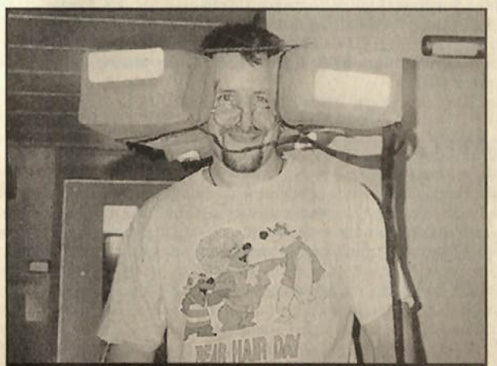
Looting The Tomb of Aramathean With... ***Demo***

After looking through the zine that this band is connected to, I was expecting the worst. **BLACK MASS OF ABSU** plays Doomy Death Metal that moves at a snails pace. Basically it's just Metal played way too slow with keyboards playing in the background and screams of agony for vocals. Listening to this makes me want to kill myself. Who knows, maybe you will love it? It's not awful, it's just so slow paced. Ohhhhh...the pace. I'm not sure if this was supposed to be a joke or what? The zine that this band is connected to is absolutely atrocious, but I'm not sure if it was intended to be. The same case is made with the music. Is it a joke? Am I laughing? I don't know why but I kind of like it in a sick way. I feel it's like the situation with THE PEDS that were reviewed in issue #2 of *Metal Rules! Magazine*. You both hate it and love it and you argue with yourself. Of course the cover art is strange as well. The cover features a nude female baring her rump with a bunch of prophets just standing around. Why weren't they checking out her rump? Inside the cassette box there is a photo(?) of a bunch of nude guys with chalices of blood. Are the prophets from the cover waiting for those dudes to come around? I can't make heads nor tails of this whole affair, maybe you can. With song titles like "Dragging the Putrid, Rotted Corpse of Christ From It's Filthy, Rancid Tomb" and "Homosexual Orgy On the Gravesite of Crowley," and band members with names like Count Von Kromm and Santera Puto, this has got to be a joke right? I just don't know...Contact: **Black Mass Of Absu**, P.O. Box 638, Kenmore, NY 14217 USA

CAMSHAFT

Between Wallz ***Demo***

This CD starts off rocking with "Thought Persuasion" which is a sort of TOOL meets DEFTONES ditty. In the second song something very familiar is heard. The main riff is "Smells Like Teen Spirit" backwards. You'll recognize it immediately. C'mon folks give credit where credit is due, especially in a crappy number such as this. Later on you get some poor RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE type tunes. **CAMSHAFT** is starting to remind me of the Battle of the Bands in High School. **CAMSHAFT** would probably come in third. One of the highlights of the album though is "Phantazm." "Phantazm" is an instrumental reminiscent of old Dianno era IRON MAIDEN meets DREAM THEATER. Great lead guitar work is represented on this track and hints of it come through within the confines of the rest of the CD. Vocally the CD is pretty weak especially in the slower tempos. What happened here is **CAMSHAFT** tried too many styles but, can only pull off one or two of them and mediocrily at best. To me it seems their slower numbers work best for them. The only problem is the vocals. This results in quite a problem since the band is in search of a bassist and drummer at the moment. So if you replace the vocalist all you have left is the lead guitarist. Well, what the hell, the lead guitarist should start his own band. Would they be called **CAMSHAFT**? Aw, who cares. If your interested in this release or your a drummer or bassist looking for a band, contact them. They are looking for serious and dedicated musicians only, who are influenced by bands like METALLICA, RUSH, KORN, OZZY, PANTERA, DREAM THEATER AND RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE. The CD is $10! Contact: **Camshaft** 112 Park Ct., Medford, NJ 08055 USA • E-mail: chadcat@cyberenet.net



In case of an emergency Jeff's head can also be used as a floatation device.

CHAOS THEORY

Scarred For Life ***Demo***

Hey, local boys again, alright! **CHAOS THEORY** describe their music as Heavy, Power, Groove Thrash Metal. That sounds like a pretty accurate statement to me. I think that **CHAOS THEORY** has their own identity. The high points of this disc are the driving sounds, which is accomplished by the thudding, grooving bass, driving drums and jammin' riffs. Weak points on here are the vocals, they lack serious power. At points they work well with the music but in most cases it sounds as if he's holding back or just doesn't possess the vocal prowess of a true Metal Thrasher. He could enunciate his melodic singing if he let his bandmates handle the gruff sections, perhaps in a chorus. I also think the cover art blows! **CHAOS THEORY** is a band with definite potential and even the boys admit this is a little dated. Also stated was they could only do so much with the budget permitted. I for one await great things from **CHAOS THEORY**. Talent is especially evident in the song "Karate Chop." If you want to check out the beginning of a promising, young band send $6 (Worldwide) for this 6 song premiere from 1996. While you wait for the new CD which should be out by the time you read this. Other merchandise is available as well. T-shirts are $11, stickers are available for $1 and videos for $7. Contact: **Chaos Theory** 82 Eaton Road, Bordentown, NJ 08505 USA Phone# (609)298-EVIL • E-mail: ChaosThory@aol.com
Web: http://members.aol.com/ChaosThory/index.html

CHRIST AGONY

Trilogy **Pagan Records**

My first contact with Cezar (guitar and vocals) was with his solo project MOON. That project entitled "Daemon's Heart" still ranks high on my playlist. Cezar has not let me down with the new **CHRIST AGONY** CD ***Trilogy***. While MOON was pretty one dimensional, **CHRIST AGONY** is a plethora of sounds. From slow paced numbers to MOON type riffages and even Black Metal dance-athons, **CHRIST AGONY** has it all. Sampling is incorporated throughout the entire album creating a special hypnotic tone. ***Trilogy*** is an extremely moving and moody classic. You get seven original cuts and four bonus tracks from their cult 1992 Demo on here. You get to see where all this satanic madness began. For $14 Europe or $16 Elsewhere you get over an hour of Satanic Black Metal. Contact: Pagan Records P.O. Box 12, 86-105, Swiece 5, Poland

CICATRIX

Unearth* & *Disable ***Demo's***

This rules! **CICATRIX** plays brutal old school Death Metal. There is plenty of time changes and chord progressions throughout and it always remains ass-kicking heavy. The vocals are extremely throaty but surprisingly quite decipherable. **CICATRIX** is from Poland but you can understand the vocals (which are in English) better than 95% of American Metal bands. Both demos kick friggin' ass! Whoever says the Polish are stupid can answer to **CICATRIX** or me. It's up to you. Hey, I'm only 1/4 Polish but I can still stand up for my other 1/4 of a Motherland. This is definitely recommended. If you're sick of all the Death Metal bands that are abandoning their roots then **CICATRIX** is for you. **CICATRIX** is 100% brutal Death Metal. Get to the mailbox or you're a moron. Both ***Unearth*** and ***Disable*** are just $5 each worldwide. Contact: **CICATRIX** C/O Jan Brodowski, UL.Kaniowczykow 18/5, 24-100 Pulawy, Poland

THE CLAY PEOPLE

Slip Disc Records

THE CLAY PEOPLE remind me of most of the Alterna-Metal Bands that I hear on the radio...that is when I'm forced to listen to it. The songs may be decent and good for about 3 minutes of pleasure but I wouldn't purchase them. It's just not my thing and I know I could never listen to it repeatedly. If you're into this sort of thing, then you might dig it. **THE CLAY PEOPLE** bring back memories of how much I hated pottery class. The only Clay People I really like are Gumby, Pokey and their pals!

COHERENT LIQUID FORM

Cryptic Embrace ***Demo***

What the hell is **COHERENT LIQUID FORM**? I don't know but it sounds pretty cool and the cover art is the shit! From the photos inside the cassette they look like total Death Metal dudes. Looks can be deceiving because this sounds a lot more like Black Metal with some Death Metal thrown in just to catch you off-guard. What they play is not a simplistic style. Progressive time changes are thrown in

with reckless abandon throughout each song. In some cases it works, but in quite a few cases it sounds more like a jam session than a studio session. Once again like in a lot of bands of this genre the vocals and drums are up way to high in the mix and the guitar is hopelessly lost. But this tape is not shit. It has many fine moments throughout the five songs presented here. With some polish **COHERENT LIQUID FORM** could be a damn fine band. Cassette is available for $5 worldwide. Contact: **Coherent Liquid Form** P.O. Box 9117, N. St.Paul, MN 55109 USA

CRANIUM

Speed Metal Slaughter **Necropolis**

Get this CD immediately!!! **CRANIUM** fuckin' rules!! I almost knew I was going to like this the minute I laid eyes on it. The CD cover is hilarious! It has a bunch of Metalheads and a demon with a chainsaw annihilating a bunch of disco people in a club. It's pure cartoon-ish fun, which would be a great description of the music as well. **CRANIUM** is pure unadulterated Speed Metal with shriekin' vocals right out of the 1980's! All songs have great intros and sound effects throughout. With song titles like "Slaughter On The Dance Floor," "Lawnmower Lover," "Sluts Of Satan" and "Graveyard Romance" you know you're in for a treat! Also a cheesy drum solo is included for your enjoyment; ironically enough during the song "A Devil On Drums."I have been playing this CD in the store non-stop for the last week and there is not a customer that I saw that did not bang their head to the **CRANIUM** beat. As funny as it is, this is not simply a joke band. This is the best Speed Metal release that I have heard in at least a decade. If you loved DESTRUCTION, VIKING and the others of that classic genre than you can't live without this. Although I've used that line before it's once again true. This is why METAL RULES!!! Check your record store immediately or contact: Necropolis P.O. Box 14815 , Fremont,CA 94539-4815 USA Fax:(510)623-0927 E-mail: Necropol@aol.com

DARK FUNERAL

Vobiscum Satanas **Metal Blade**

Hmmm...what kind of Metal do you think this is? When you see these corpse painted warriors drenched in blood with their bullet belts and spiked armlets you'll know for sure. This band is a shadow of the last line up, only Lord Ahriman (guitar) remains. We now have added Alzazmon (drums), Emperor Magus Caligula (bass, vocals) and Typhos (guitars). These names will never cease to amaze and amuse me. This causes me to bend over laughing so hard I puked out my lower intestine for **DARK FUNERAL** to eat.**DARK FUNERAL** is of course Black Metal. I had heard how excellent this was. I listened to it and I listened and I continued to listen, I actually listened four times, and it's not excellent. Yes, it's heavy as sin, but it's also blurry and boring as hell. This is basic Black Metal through and through. The best words to describe it are repetitive and contrite. Go buy something else.

DARKLANDS

Heathendoom Music

DARKLANDS' debut full length CD starts off with a beautiful romantic classical piano piece. After that it falls apart. This is barely Metal. What it is, is boring. Very boring. Sleep inducing boring. Comatose dead boring. **DARKLANDS'** music is Gothic meets Doom (musically not vocally). The music is ass dragging slow. It sounds like a not as exciting TYPE O NEGATIVE. If you know how I feel about TYPE O NEGATIVE then you know I wasn't thrilled with this release. If I want to play lullabies, I'll borrow my daughter's mobile from when she was an infant. What is it with trying to sound like Dracula when you sing anyway? This is good for those Goth chicks that always wear black and never smile. Go get 'em girls! Trendy Type O'sters and Crow fans write for this $20 CD. Label contact: Heathendoom Music, Box 365-114 79 Stockholm, Sweden

THE DAWNING OF PURE EVIL: FIVE YEARS OF NECROPOLIS RECORDS

Oh boy! Here's another compilation. You know I love reviewing these. Well, at least this is a good one.

1. **DAWN**: Black, Death, Thrash-good shit.
2. **GUILLOTINE**: Old school Thrash ala Kreator. Fuck yeah!!
3. **NIFELHEIM**: Absolute Chaos!! 'Nuff said.
4. **THE ANCIENTS REBIRTH**: More Chaos, eeek!! Then it slows down to creep you with eerie female ghost-like backing vocals. Then it continues to blast you some more.
5. **WITCHERY**: High speed Thrash. This is killer, killer shit! I'm gonna look for their full length immediately as should you.
6. **SADISTIC INTENT**: Decent Death/Thrash Metal
7. **DEMONIC**: Crappy Black Metal.
8. **OPHTHALAMIA**: Crunchin' Black/Death.
9. **DISSECTION**: Fast paced Death
10. **WAR**: Chaotic all star Black Metal mania.
11. **CRANIUM**: Speed Metal maniacs.
12. **DEATHWITCH**: Speed Metal, Thrashin' Death.
13. **TARTAROS**: Ambient, creepy and super cool Black Metal.
14. **UNSURPER**: Celtic Frosty-like Death Metal.
15. **ARCKANUM**: Venom influenced Black/Death.
16. **SATANIC SLAUGHTER**: Cool fast paced Death/Thrash.
17. **NIDEN DIV.187**: Fast paced crappy Black Metal
18. **ASHES**: Weak Death/Black
19. **VONDUR**: When playing slow this Death/Black band sounds kind of alright, but when playing fast they soun like a pissed off hive of bees

...and that's it. What the fuck do you want it's 19 songs!!!!

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Demo

Here is electronic music made primarily with a Macintosh and music software. It features a female who's strange and off key vocals creates an over the top bizarre package of songs. This four song demo will intrigue you and annoy you at the same time. Sometimes the vocals fit perfectly with the eerie music and at times you wish you could scream "Shut the FUCK up!!". Well, actually you can scream this, but I don't think she can hear you. Why are you yelling at a tape anyways? Are you slow or something? This is interesting enough to listen to but live, I think you would fall off your bar stool bored to tears. Her voice would best be described as some poetic artsy girl singing in a futuristic town of Poettica. Does this make any sense to you? No, me either, but neither did this tape. It's yours for only $3 worldwide. Contact: **Dead Letter Office**
722 Dennis Avenue, Sliverspring, MD 20901 USA

DEFECT

Alive and Free ***Demo***

Like their other demo wasn't enough, I have to review their live demo as well?! Why me? I already sat through their last demo tape waiting for a shining moment and now this. Surprisingly they are much better live. They have much more energy and sound very much alive. The first tune on here is a total NIRVANA rip-off while the rest is Punk/Alterna-Rock. "Alive and Free" is very listenable, I actually enjoyed it. I also enjoyed how they scream for the people to sing along and nobody answers. Either the audience is turned down real low or there's only six people in the audience, including the band. **DEFECT** is working on some new music which will be more Hard Rock and Punk. So, I'll be interested to see what they come up with. I think they have a chance to grow as musicians, from their photos they look as

though they are five. I also think the vocalist should take voice lessons or else the band should seek a new vocalist. Contact: **Defect**, 139 RUE DU PRESSOIR TONNEAU 45160 OLIVET, France

DEFECT

metamorphose Demo

I know this should've been listed before the live demo, but do you really want me to fuck up my alphabetical system now that I have one?!? This is the first demo I have received from France that wasn't Death Metal or Grindcore. Oh how I wish it was. I'm not sure why this band is shopping this in the Underground. It's about as underground as Rolling Stone Magazine. This cassette is filled with SMASHING PUMPKINS (with no balls), Pop and campfire ballads. It doesn't do anything for me except give me a headache. The reason for that is the vocals. They're up way too high in the mix and they aren't that good. Irritating would be a better word. The music is basic blah...not putrid but definitely not something I would ever play again. Did I mention that it's sung all in French? If mellow stuff with bad vocals is your groove, contact: See above address.

DEPRAVED

Demo

While listening to this one of my customers said that it sounded like a construction site. Yeah it does but, I think it would be better described as Satan visits a construction site. What is it about France that breeds so much Death and Grindcore? You even get six songs to boot, like..."Putrefying Menstration", "Enter In My Snuff Movie" and "Necrogerontophile" (uhh...whatever). The cover, which is almost impossible to see, because it was photocopied so shittily, features some chick humping a corpse with hooks pulling at her ass and nipples ala the classic Hellraiser films. Yup, that's **DEPRAVED**! It's also depraved that there are bands this bad. **DEPRAVED**'s Grindcore is horrid noise which the terrible quality of recording doesn't help, to say the least. When they slow down they sound like a slightly below average Death Metal band. Their 1997 CD is sold out (they must have a huge family,. but the '94 demo and the '95 demo are available for 25 FF/8 DM/$4 USA each. Long sleeve shirts in extra large only are available for 100 FF/25 DM/$17 USA. If crappy French Grindcore is your thing contact: **Depraved**, c/o Pincet Gilles, 110, Bd de Hardeval 54520 Laxou-France

DESEKRATOR

Metal For Demons **Hammerheart**

When I saw the cover for this I was PSYCHED! It looked like total campy fun. On the cover the three guys in the band are in a Viking ship with Flying-V guitars, drum sticks held in the inverted cross fashion and one dude wearing a bullet belt on his head. Also, there is a hot nude blonde holding up the Metal For Demons sign which, conveniently, covers here most intimate of areas. **DESEKRATOR** is an all star band featuring Infenus, Tormentor of GORGOROTH, Ivar and Gintle of ENSLAVED. With various other Black metal dudes make cameos. I thought this would be hilarious, crazy and rule. It was hilarious...hilariously bad. Actually no, I think I'm crazy for ever thinking it would rule. **DESEKRATOR** is a festering pile of emu shit on a hot desert plane. **DESEKRATOR** tries many Metal styles that makes one of the worst albums in Metal history. Avoid this like the leper that wants to give you tongue. Contact: Hammerheart Records, PO Box 277, 6300 AG Valkenburg, Holland, Fax: +31 (0) 46 437800
Phone: +31 (0) 46 4373600 Email: hhr@xs4all.nl
Website: www.xs4all.nl/~hhr

DLR BAND

Wawazat!! Records, Inc.

If you didn't know this was going to be released you could easily have missed it. With just Dave's initials on the cover and no sign of his whole name, gape mouthed smile or balding head you could be quite confused. Where was his ego on this? I can think of many ways to look at this CD. Is it better than what Dave has released of late? Yeah! Is it better then anything he has ever released? No. Is it better than the new VAN HALEN record? Fuck yea, and fuck Eddie. Yeah, Dave's released a better album than his former teamates. The song "Slam Dunk" which is totally old school Van Halen, is definitely one of the best tracks he has ever released, and that fact alone makes this CD essential. The 14 tracks on here are a serious mixed batch. Some of them are classics in the making and some are already dog-doo beneath my shoe. The highlight of the CD besides the usual fun of Diamond Dave is the shredding licks of John Lowery (who is in TWO as well as Marilyn Manson). He is truly the guitar find of the 90's and should remind Eddie of how he used to play. Dave was the greatest frontman of all time and for me to see him gain even a little bit of his former glory makes me a happy camper indeed!

EBONY TEARS

Tortura Insomniae **Black Sun Records**

Wow! "Tortura Insomniae" is a near perfect masterpiece! I can't get this out of my CD player and it's not because it's glued in. Picture this if you may, a morphing gun is sprayed over SENTENCED, CARCASS and SKYCLAD while they party at some pub. I think this may be how **EBONY TEARS** has formed. The music sequesters you to repeated listenings. Lots of bands have done the blending of Death Metal with classical instrumentation and have met with moderate results. On here the combination blends naturally with ease. Each song on here is radically different from the next, you even get an Irish Metal jig on here! **EBONY TEARS** are so heavy, yet so melodic. "Tortura Insomniae" has been produced so perfectly that you pick up all the delicate nuances and subtleties. The riffing and drumming is ultra quick but doesn't become a blur, always a bonus. Violin use on here makes you believe that the Violin has always been a standard Heavy Metal instrument. Even the cover artwork is above standard, a beautiful flower woven into a forest bathed in a purple hue. Hey, even the name is cool and different. Why is it near perfect? I was only kidding, it is perfect. Contact: Black Sun Records P.O. Box 129,S-401 22 Gothenburg, Sweden or Band Contact: **Ebony Tears** C/O Johny Wranning, Stramalivagen 4, S-168 73 Bromma, Sweden

EDENROT

The Land Where The Crow Starves **Twilight Records**

This CD has a mirror on it. I can see my face!!! "I feel pretty,so pretty..I'm pretty."" Uhhhh....excuse me. **EDENROT** plays a mix of early PARADISE LOST mixed with Doom and Goth. There are shades of Classic Metal thrown in as well. Does it work? Well, for me it doesn't work at all. Both guitarists do vocals as well. One of them sounds so-so but the other sounds like festering shit. The whole CD sounds like experimental Gothic New Wave poopie. This is definitely not my cup of tea. It's more like a cup of urine. "The Land Where The Crow Starves?" He will starve if he's counting on **EDENROT** to feed him with their record sales. The few good riffs on here are totally wasted and the live jam at the end is preposterously bad. Label Contact: Twilight Records P.O. Box 416 Devault, PA 19432 USA E-mail: wom_tw@ccil.org Band Contact: **Edenrot** 327 Ford Road, St. Marys, PA 15857 USA E-mail: edenrot@hotmail.com

ETHEREAL SIN

The Cocoon and Ebony Thorns ***Demo***

Now this is an intriguing band. The music has been dubbed by them as Elegiac Black Metal! It is close to melodic Black/Death but more dramatic. Lyrics have the ancient Japanese language being used. The concept for the lyrics are based on Japanese traditional culture including grief, wrath, despair, fear, misery, tragedy and the greatness of nature. Musically they are a swirling insane beast. The tape starts off with elegant music void of vocals. After a couple of minutes you receive lovely lush Japanese female vocals. Then something happens, you hear thunder and the musical storm arrives. The vocals come in now as the music totally races, they are the most throat shredding screams of agony I have ever heard. The music then continues to rush in a Black Metal MAYHEM mixed with classic MAIDEN/PRIEST stylings. As the music continues the screams continue to haunt you as they echo through your head. The music changes styles continually,

always looking to surprise you. Also thrown into this chaos is a ballad like section with Japanese style chanting and choir. This is a tape to get you banging your head, wondering what's next and get you saying to yourself "How the fuck does the vocalist do that?"All this and great cover art to boot!! Contact: **Ethereal Sin** C/O Akihirio Yamane 1-6-1-215 Minamibefu, Nishi-Ku, Kobe City, Hyogo 651-2116 Japan E-mail: yama666@alles.or.jp
WebPage: www.fortunecity.com/ tinpan/ blur/406/index.htm/

FEAR FACTORY

Obsolete **Roadrunner Records**

I was real fuckin' frightened when I read the introduction letter I received with the new **FEAR FACTORY** disc. It said **FEAR FACTORY** was going to deliver their unique brand of Aggressive Rock and would make fans of Modern Rock and Industrial aficianidos like GRAVITY KILLS and STABBING WESTWARD. Oh no! A cold bead of sweat formed at my brow as I braced myself while putting this on. "Please don't be Re-Load, Please don't be Re-Load" is what I repeated over and over to myself in as many times as it took for the CD to load. Did I just say Load? Yikes. Then it came on and after listening to this CD I came to the conclusion that this is their best release yet! It's also fast becoming one of my favorite CD's of 1998! **FEAR FACTORY** embraces many styles on here and the effect is wonderful. The CD opens with familiar territory. "Shock" sounds like a "Demanufacture" leftover. But it's a good one, not a b-side throwaway. "Edge Crusher", which is the next song up, is a Hip Hop Metal killer. Hip Hop and Metal are only great when done right. 98% of the time the effect is poor at best. **FEAR FACTORY** pulls it off with incredible ease and it's one of the stand out tracks on the CD. "Smasher/Devourer" comes on and then does what the song is titled. And on and on it goes...killer song after killer song. Near the end of this soon to be classic the sound changes completely with "Resurrection", for example, which sounds like a "New Wave **FEAR FACTORY**" meets a "Modern Rock **FEAR FACTORY**". But it sounds supreme. It's just really a fantastic mix and when they close out with the ballad "Timelessness" you know you have listened to a perfect CD. Burton C. Bells voice is incredible on this release. Of course Dino still hammers those perfectly simplistic heavy riffs out and Raymond and Christian keep the whole thing together as tight as O.J. claimed his glove to be. Obsolete? Hardly. Call this necessary!

Here's Jeff makin' his cameo appearance on Saved By the Bell
(He's really lookin' for some underage lovin')

FIFTH REASON

Psychotic **Heathendoom Music**

This band describes their music as, ***"progressive and technical, yet melodic"***, that statement is accurate but there is quite a bit of Doom elements thrown in. But what do you expect, it's from Heathendoom for Christ sake. I do get a little nervous when a band lists in their product information that one of their main selling points is that the cover was made by M Industries, who happen to be the leading cover making company of the Swedish marketplace. Whoop-A-Fuckin-Doo-Da-Day. Who gives a rats ass about that, besides the cover sucks. This album was produced by Mike Wead of MERCYFUL FATE and production wise it's a sound album. The music is proficient, creative and well executed. The vocals are above-average but the whole thing bores the pants off me. Eeek!! I'm pantless. I have no pants on. Everybody stop staring at my Johnson. Where are my pants? **FIFTH REASON** you owe me a pair of pants you cock suckers! CD is available for $20. Band contact: Fifth Reason C/O Johannsson, Bergsmarks V 6, S-112 66 Stockholm, Sweden Label Contact: Heathendoom Music Box 36, S-114 79, Stockholm, Sweden E-mail: heathendoom.music@swipnet.se

FUCKIN WILD

The Raven's Cry **Art Voice Records**

I happened upon this band strictly by accident. Like the shit-pop mongoloid that I am, when I first got internet access I looked up a bunch of dirty words in the search engines. You can guess where I found this band. I contacted them and they told me their band was a folk oriented style of 60's/70's psychedelia music. I was quite surprised about this considering the name of the band. I decide to have them send it out for review regardless. I'm glad I did. Metal this isn't, a great CD it is. **FUCKIN WILD** plays a gamut of rock tunes with elements of psychedelia, world music, folk, a little funk, blues and just about anything else you can think of. It definitely sounds as if this CD was made in the 60's and would be excellent for Vietnam War movie soundtracks. Anja Fritzche is reminiscent of Patti Smith, but has her own vocal style as well. She's extremely passionate and her style compliments the music perfectly. This is a band that has some mileage on them, they are not pimple faced teens just starting out. They are true professionals. If you love music then this for you. I really do think the band should change their name even though I quite enjoy it. The problem for them is the name is extremely misleading and their target audience is really going to miss out on them. Close minded Metal Heads stay away. **FUCKIN WILD** is the kind of band that you want to give all your attention so you can soak it in. I love this! Contact for Pricing: **Fuckin Wild** Drudhardstr., 14.b/D-80995 Munich, Germany
Phone# 049/89/3149227
Fax#049/89/4482543
E-mail: Fuckinwild@geocities.com
Home Page:
www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/7556/

IMMORTAL DOMINION

Birth ***Demo***

IMMORTAL DOMINION pummels your skull with their "Birth" demo. They are heavily promoting this and the work seems to have paid off with over 2000 discs sold. What does **IMMORTAL DOMINION** sound like? The answer is PANTERA. They sound almost exactly like PANTERA. Vocally it is Phil all the way and musically is pure PANTERA with a little bit of their own style snuck in. The album's low point is when they attempt their own ballad ala "Cemetery Gates", which parts of are lifted onto **IMMORTAL DOMINION**'s version. Vocally vocalist Ray Smith (He also plays guitar.),can't sing ballads like Phil, but he does great bellows and screams. "Birth" is very "Cowboys From Hell" sounding, but it's still a proficient album on it's own. So what if **IMMORTAL DOMINION** bows down to and steal from PANTERA. PANTERA stole their heavy groove from EXHORDER! Don't believe me? Go hunt down some EXHORDER and listen for yourself. So if you dig that molten Metal Power Groove that PANTERA and EXHORDER do so well then this is for you. The songs on here with the exception of the ballad are way better than the two new songs on PANTERA's latest live disc. This CD is only $5 and worth sending for! Contact: **Immortal Dominion** 335 Bradley Dr.,Fort Collins,CO 80524 USA
Phone#(970)493-4082 Email:immortaldominion@juno.com
Web Page:www.sonic.net/~id/

IMPIOUS

Evilized **Black Sun Records**

Once again, another cool CD cover from Black Sun. The only fault is the band's logo which resembles a Rorshac test. Is it a duck...two people screwing...a sailboat? "Evilized" (Is that a real world?) opens cool enough with the sound of an opera getting ready to open and then a bombardment of lasers and then hereeee's **IMPIOUS**.By the way is it just me or is **IMPIOUS** a horrible name for a band? What does it mean? Maybe it means short bastards? I just don't know. The music is really heavy, the vocals mean and the sound is very Swedish Death. **IMPIOUS** has some neat shit mixed into these heavy tunes. Original riffs, strange time changes, insane screams and bizarre feedback make this not the average Death affair. You'll also enjoy those sloppy SLAYER like feedback solos and of course some acoustics to calm between the madness. **IMPIOUS** is a band you want to play loud! I was constrained due to being at work but it screamed for volume. Get Evilized! Contact: Black Sun Records Box 129,S-401 22 Gothenburg, Sweden E-mail:blacksun@dolores.se
Web:www.dolores.se/blacksun or
band E-mail:gain7@hotmail.com

INSANE

Awakening from.... ***Demo***

I'm so glad I'm getting more mail from the Czech Republic. Before when I began the magazine the only band I had heard was M.A.C. of Mad and that was quite a bit disappointing. They were pretty beat. Now, with bands like **INSANE** and NO PROMISES, I can see that there is a burgeoning underground over there. "Awakening from..." has only 4 songs but you get a good taste of the band from these 4 tunes. I like how they mix the TYPE O NEGATIVE crooning into the intricate Thrash/Death that they play. It's different from the norm. Other vocal styles are heard throughout this like DEICIDE and guttural Thrash style. The accent on Zdenek Slaning is priceless. I have never heard anything like it except from M.A.C OF MAD and NO PROMISES...ahh fergit it. If you like Death/Thrash with originality write to the band or else save yourself a stamp and order this and NO PROMISES from management at one time. Band Contact: Venca Pustejovsky, Zahradni 206, Velke Heraltice, 747 75, Czech Republic or management: Jaromir "Deather" Bezruc Charovsku 15,794 01 Krnov, Czech Republic E-mail: under@krnov.cesnet.cz
Web: krnov.cesnet.cz/~under/index 5. htm

IRON MAIDEN

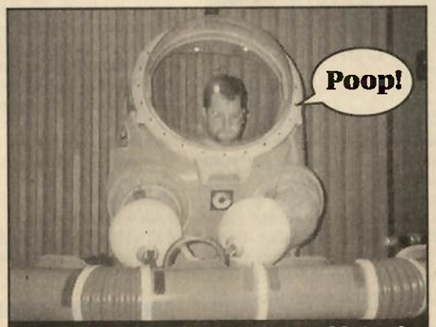
Virtual XI **CMC**

I cringed while I prepared to put this on. After sitting through many gut wrenching listens of "X-Factor" I was horrified. I knew "X-Factor" blew by the time I got halfway into it. But I read an interview with Steve Harris and he insisted you need to listen to it at least 7 times for you to appreciate it. Steve your a fucking liar, now I hate it even more. You owe me 7 hours of my life bitch! "Virtual XI" is a 100 times better than "X-Factor" but it's only 1/2 as good as the worst Bruce Dickinson Era Maiden album of your choice. Musically **IRON MAIDEN** sounds about where they left off before Dickinson left. Blaze, although he sounds more comfortable on here, just isn't the right man for the job. Maiden should take a lesson from Priest on how to hire a new frontman. Although there are quite a few fine moments on here, the CD is plagued with editing problems. Some songs are just too damn long. For example: "The Angel and the Gambler" which is 9:51 in length, should have about seven minutes snipped from it. If you're a Maidenhead such as I (Yeah, I'm one of those Morons who buy all those singles for the extra song), you should purchase this. It's an above average Metal album and it won't make you kill yourself like "X-Factor." There are also other things non-musically that bug the shit out me, like the shameless cross promotions with AOL, the soccer team (Who really gives a shit if Nicko is a good goalie?) and the video game. Are you guys selling records or products? Worst of all is the CD cover. Pay Derek Riggs whatever the hell he asks for because he's worth it. And most importantly Nicko let my wife cut your hair for you, you look pathetic. My treat baby!

JAGGED EYE

Shred to the Max ***Demo***

JAGGED EYE calls themselves the most terrifying, intense, Neo-Classical (all instrumental) Heavy Metal band on the planet! Well, that's not quite true although "Shred to the Max" is extremely accurate. **JAGGED EYE** has created a 15 minute musical masturbation session. If this kind of thing is it for you, then check it out. There are two guitarists on here and they both shred considerably. The bassist and drummer aren't slouches either and they get a little time in the spotlight as well. At 15 minutes, this is the perfect amount of time for their brand of vocaless metal. If they go any longer these guys will need to hire a vocalist. Guitar enthusiasts will enjoy this thoroughly. Once again another band that should contact Shrapnel.(Does that label still exist?) Contact: Mark Trueitt 18411 Hatteras St. Apt.109, Tarzana, CA 91356-1961 USA



Deep within the underground lair of Metal Rules!, Jeff performs his review ritual

JAYE FOUCHER

Infectious Licks
Fuism Records

The more you listen, the more you pick up. That's the lesson I learned as I listened to this CD. I kept playing it over and over so as not to miss a thing. Jaye is an accomplished player who knows the way around a fretboard. Jaye rattles off with ease Satrianisqe riffs but has her own style. From the silly opening number "Killer Clowns" she shows she's not just about jamming, but exploring the boundaries and beyond of the guitar. Jaye also tries out her vocals on some choice tracks. She should sing more. Her voice reminds me of the headstrong women singers that are so popular of late. Feel my emotion baby! Do you know what I mean? I think vocals are necessary. How much can you listen to the guitar without vocals? I saw Satriani and I think he sang one cut the entire evening. That wasn't enough. So, I'm glad Jaye chose to sing on more than one track because her voice should be heard and you need vocals. Also she's smokin' hot to look at as well. Is that sexist? Do I care? Infectious Licks? Yeah, that's what I'm thinking! Oops! I hope my wife isn't reading this or I'm getting a knee to the nuts! Check this out kids...She's not just a good female guitarist, she's just a great guitarist! Contact: Fuism Records P.O.Box 79116, Waverly, MA 02179-0116 USA or Rad Plaid Music 22 Addison Rd. Suite B, Waltham, MA 02154-5703 USA Web Page:www.z.shore.net/~puma/jaye/ or Email:jfoucher@aol.com

JUDAS ISCARIOT

Of Great Eternity **Elegy Records**

This is one of those one man deals. How the hell they perform this live is beyond me. Akhenaten hails from the evil boundaries of the nether regions of the unholy abyss otherwise known as De Kalb, IL!! ***"If your a Christian or any other benevolent subspecies you will be ignored if you write."***...that's what it says next to the dudes address. I want every Christian to write this dude and see if he knows who you are without telling him. He he he! It's not even mischief night and we're already playing, oh so fun tricks. **JUDAS ISCARIOT** reminds me of Black Metal mixed with Beatnick Poetry that you would hear at the local java hut. Yeah, Starbucks from hell!! If you have been to one of those places it doesn't really need to be any more Hellish. With all those geeky dudes with bad haircuts and all the girls that could be pretty if they didn't iron their hair and wear big thick glasses. They do that so as to take away from their outer beauty so that people can respect their individual beauty of their outer well being. Okay....Why do they all wear that stinky oil that smells like pepper? If any of you know tell me why. Now back to the music. I'm not going to tell you this is the worst Black Metal CD I have ever heard. It's not even close. It's really not that bad-but it does sound exactly how I described it. I'm not kidding. It has some decent riffs on here and the vocals are actually decipherable in most parts. The cover rules! A red sky reflecting over a rocky cliff with water rushing beneath and a tall ghostly leave less tree blowing in the harsh breeze. A great painted piece. The CD is available at some stores or contact: Elegy Records 248 Lakeview Ave. Suite 319, Clifton, NJ 07011 USA Phone#(201)614-0670 Fax#(201)365-2323 E-Mail:Elegy666@aol.com or contact the man himself: Akhenaten P.O. Box 54, De Kalb, IL 60115-0054 USA He'll write you back as soon as he finishes milking the cow, picking corn and other chores he has to do for Ma before supper.

JUNIOR'S ARMY

Cars Don't Rust In Outer Space ***Demo***

What happens when a bunch of geeks get together and make a record? You get **JUNIOR'S ARMY** of course. **JUNIOR'S ARMY** is a CD full of funny novelty songs that are played by talented musicians. The songs are actually good, the jokes may not continue to be funny any longer but the songs are still good. With song titles like "Duct Tape Your Mouth," "His Boy Elroy" (Complete with Jetson sound clips), "Lonely Bonely" and "Nympho Nancy's Naughty Nightie" you know you're in for some fun. They call themselves Techno-Metal. That's not accurate, it's more like good old Rock N' Roll, although there is quite a bit of Metal thrown in, but it's all good. Dr. Demento gives these guys his seal of approval and so do I. If you're sick of music bringing you down and want some stupid but uplifting fun, than you have come to the right place. Contact: **Junior's Army**

2529 Madison Ave., Otho, Iowa 50569 USA E-Mail: juniormotel@dodgenet.com
Phone# (515)972-4475 Web: www.sky.net/~scare

KAREN LYNN GORNEY

Used To Love You Madly ***Demo***

Yeah, it's her again. She's my buddy, dammit! Deal with it. On this CD she sings a batch of all kinds of music styles and does a fine job of it. Also included are four live tunes that she performs with the band Crackin (Who have four CD's out with Warner Bros. Records). She sings her heart out whether the tunes are Rock N' Roll, Blues, Pop, Country or even when she's being a nasty, sultry diva. This is the woman John Travolta couldn't have In Saturday Night Fever. Does anybody besides me see the irony in this? She's the Disco queen and she's buds with Mr. Metal, your illustrious publisher. C'mon! Who hears me? She also does one cover and it's by her father Jay Gorney (He wrote the mega-hit "Brother Can You Spare A Dime?") Yes, that's the real old song that you have probably heard eight million times. I implore you to check this out. You could always get it for your Mom or Dad if you don't like it. You might want to check out what's going on in the song "Down On My Knees Again." The CD is available for $15. Also available for $10 is two different B&W photos from Saturday Night Fever and they're autographed. Also available; two different color photos from Saturday Night Fever and they're $15 each. If you're a soap opera fan there are two different B&W photos available, one with Richard Hatch and the other with Karen alone. Let her know if you want any items personalized. You can also send her anything else to autograph and she'll do it for $10. Not *do* it, my sick friends, autograph it I mean. Make checks or money orders out to Karen Lynn Gorney. Contact: Karen Lynn Gorney C/O The Karen Company, Ansonia Station P.O. Box 1060, 40 West 66th Street, New York, NY 10023 USA

KONKHRA

Weed Out The Weak **Metal Blade**

This came out over a year ago in Europe and I've been impatiently waiting ever since. Well, I finally got to hear it and since we had to wait all this time the good sports over at Metal Blade went ahead and got us a bonus track called "Back Stabber." This band which hails from Denmark has been around since 1992 but in 1996 they split with two members. Then they went on the look out for two more killer players. They found them with Chris Kontos(ex-MACHINE HEAD) and James Murphy (Ex-more bands than I feel like writing). **KONKHRA** is an excellent, crushing powerhouse of a band. Musically they're a cross between MACHINE HEAD and "Demonic" era TESTAMENT. James Murphy is even better than usual and flips off blazing riffs like a cigarette's flame making it's way to the filter. One can only hope that they play over in America at sometime because I think they would crush live. Not only that but you never know when James Murphy will quit and join another band. A waste of friggin' space is present on here as well, with the song "Pain and Sorrow." The song is a stupid B-Comedy/Western type guitar sound with spoken words in the background. Why do bands ruin perfectly killer records with worthless shit like this? I really do wonder. Did I mention lead singer/guitarist Anders Lundemark has got that awesome Metal crunch sound going, that I love to hear? If I didn't mention it, it's there as well. This is a serious slammer for all Metalheads, minus track 11 of course.

KRATOS

Demo(?)

I don't know anything about this band. It was recorded on the other side of a demo I received. The first tune is a very silly, old school Thrash song with super high vocals. I don't believe it's supposed to be funny but it amused the hell out of me. While this guy is squealing away all the rest of the band sounds as if they are playing separate songs and they're doing it all at once! Absolutely ridiculous! Three other songs that are on this tape rock in a classic cheesy way. This is total Speed/Thrash with high pitched "Somebody grabbed my nuts" style vocals. No info on these guys, check the internet. If you don't have a computer go to the library or else you're shit out of luck.

LARS ERIC MATTSON

Obsession **Lion Music**

Listening to this brings back many fond memories. I think of the RAINBOW/SCORPIONS/RIOT concert in the early 80's and Yngwie Malmsteen opening for AC/DC around 1985. I remember the crowd accustomed to AC/DC's simple-riff-rockin', glaring with their mouths agape as Yngwie shredded, shredded and shredded some more. Lars is obviously influenced by both Yngwie and Ritchie Blackmore. Although you hear shades of both players, Lars has his own niche in the Rock world. His playing is extremely fluid and creative. The sound has that Medieval meets Classical tone throughout it. Light keyboards, also played by Lars are implemented but not to the point of overshadowing the guitars. The vocals are Classic, gritty style Rock that compliment the music perfectly. This is great stuff that gets better and better with each play. Lars is one helluva guitar player and this is one helluva record. After he was discovered way back in 1985 by Mike Varney(Of Shrapnel Fame) and loads of practice, Lars has become the man!!! The CD is $15 but contact Lion Music just the same because they have many CD's available for the same price. Contact: Lion Music, Stromsangarna, 22 410 Godby Aland, Finland

Here we see Jeff as he tirelessly promotes Metal Rules! Magazine...yay Jeff!
(He actually was introduced as "The Monkey Boy from New Jersey")

MEMORY GARDEN

Tides **Heathendoom Music**

Wow! Even more Doom Metal from Heathendoom Music. I guess that's why they call it Heathendoom Music. Duh! What **MEMORY GARDEN** most resembles to me is CANDLEMASS. It's not quite as "dramatic" as CANDLEMASS. For example, the guitars are not as crunchy and the vocals are not even close to as operatic, but there are many similarities to be found. A decidedly average album with a couple of standout tracks "Trapped at the Pharoahs" and the excellent piano driven ballad "Blissful." If Doom Metal is your thing then this wouldn't be the best album ever but you do get those two great tracks. Make up your mind, it's your money. "Tides" is available for $20. Band Contact: Ken Johansson, Solhemsgatan 10A, S-692 33 Kumla, Sweden or Heathendoom Music Box 36 S-114 79 Stockholm, Sweden E-mail: heathendoom.music@swipnet.se

MORTALITY

Structure **Warhead Records**

My favorite part of this CD is where it was recorded at. "I Wank Hard Studio," that rules intensely! **MORTALITY** is a band from Australia heavily influenced by PANTERA. The music also has shades of Hardcore, DEICIDE, and machine-like Industrial. I have a feeling **MORTALITY** is an awesome live act, but on this CD their sound feels held back. It's like getting a filet mignon and finding fat on it. It seems the electronic sound on here sucks the life out of the brutality. If you like PANTERA, then you will probably enjoy this, but to me it's meat without the potatoes. These guys could rule. They gots chops, fat bass and precision drumming but are some how still devoid of life. Some people have said that I don't find the middle ground enough (I deny this.) and I usually find something excellent or sucky. If you count the reviews you will know this is not true but if not **MORTALITY** is what I call middle ground. Band Contact: **Mortality** 13 Parker St, Kings Langley, NSW 2147 Australia

MORTES SALTANTES

Demo#3

MORTES SALTANES are working on creating a new kind of Metal called Yomi-Metal. Yomi-Metal is strongly influenced by Black Metal but whose thoughts and melodies are influenced by ancient or traditional Japanese culture. Most of the cassette is really good. Unfortunately they're a couple of sections where I would rather have steaming hot stir-fry spread on my sac than listen to said parts. As for creating their own sound they have definitely succeeded. Incredibly heavy sections are mixed with traditional Metal, Japanese Chanting and Japanese chorus like vocal passages. If you are looking for creativity in your Metal look no further, these six Japanese lads are creating a sound all their own. Personally, I think the sound will confuse the hell out of most Americans. Look at the crap that's popular in our Country. It's friggin' pathetic. As for the shitty part of this demo, it comes near the end of the cassette. When you hear chanting and screaming noisily led over a blast beat you'll know you've reached the spot. If they would add a little dimension to the drumming in this section it might have worked. Fortunately, this section is at the end, so you can shut it off when it becomes intolerable. You'll know when to fast forward it for about 2-3 minutes and then you can play it again for the fantastic finale. I anxiously await more from **MORTES SALTANES** and Yomi-Metal with great pleasure. Contact: Kenichi Kudo (Yomituti:Mortes Saltantes) 5-9-17-210 Higachi-Terao, Tsuruminku, Yokohama, Kanagawa, 230-0077 Japan or Web Site:www.bekkoame.ne.jp/ro/yomituti

MORTICIAN

Zombie Apocalypse **Relapse Records**

Alright, everybody get out your dictionaries and look up average and cliche. Did you find them in your books? Is there a photo of **MORTICIAN** in both spots? Well there should be. Obviously they don't suck or else they would be listed as such. **MORTICIAN** plays Death Metal. You guessed the kind, guitars super low tuned, cupped mouth vocals and lots of blast beats. Nothing you haven't heard one million times before. There are film clips between each song which attempt to add to the atmosphere. The problem with them is that we have heard them before. How many bands have used the Hellraiser movie before? The logo is creepy, it's got a skull on it and the cover is pretty cool with zombies and such but do the ideas seem fresh? Song titles are equally cheesy. How about some examples? How does "Devoured Alive," "Incinerated," "Charred Corpse" and "Dissected" grab you? I must repeat to you this is not shitty, it's just been beaten to death. (There's a song title for them!) If you can pick this up used for under $6, then why not? But, if you want a better CD search around the rest of this section and other cool Metal zines (Also to be found in this magazine.) for better and more original Metal.

NO PROMISES

Face Human Soul ***Demo***

First of all, right off the bat I like the cover of this cassette. The color cover features a court jester and an evil Queen on the front. It's either painted exceptionally well or else it's a photo. With a band called **NO PROMISES** and that cover, it was hard to picture that this was a Death/Thrash band but, that's precisely what it is. The music is aggressive and progressive (And this line is possessive?) and holds your attention throughout. Vocally, like most Czech bands, they run the gamut from Crooning, Extreme Scene and guttural yells to any other style that you could possibly imagine. **NO PROMISES** promises (Ha, ha I'm so funny!!! Uhhh...) twists and turns in their music. **NO PROMISES** has great potential. Hey, and guess what, their vocalists name is Milhaus! Man, I wonder why Bart isn't in the band? And Homer always said he was a geek. Boy, was he wrong. I'm proud of that boy! Band Contact: Palo Sebesta, Nesporova 14, 909 01 Skalica, Slovak Republic or Management: Jaromir "Deather" Berzruc, Charovska 15, 794 01 Krnov, Czech Republic
E-mail: under@krnov.cesnet.cz or
Web Page: krnov.cesnet.cz/~under/index5.htm

OPTHALAMIA

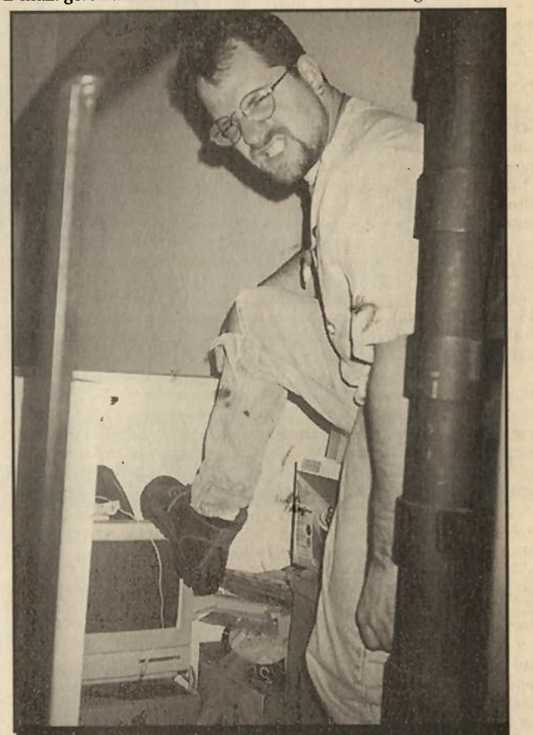
A Long Journey **Necropolis**

OPTHALAMIA is another project of It of VONDUR fame. **OPTHALAMIA** is a totally different entity though. I am not a big fan of Doom Metal but the brand that **OPTHALAMIA** performs is alright, keen-o with me. Their brand of Doom has just the right kick in it to keep you interested. It's that occasional interspersing drum and guitar fills that spice it up. Although this doesn't depress you and make you want to throw the noose over the rafters, like most of the bands of this genre, it's still a worthy purchase for you crazy ass Doomsters. For the suicidal that was always afraid to test out how Doom Metal would make you feel, this probably won't push you over the edge. If it does don't blame me. Oh, you can't can you? I really dig the tortured whispered vocals on here and the cover of VENOM's "Sons of Satan" is both godly and very ungloomy. Contact: Necropolis Records P.O. Box 14815 Fremont, CA 94539-4815 Fax#(510)623-0927
E-mail:Necropol@aol.com Web:www.necropolisrec.com

OVERLIFE

Between Passion and Madness **Goldtrack Records**

Sometimes you would never know a band was foreign when you hear them. In **OVERLIFE**'s case it is unmistaken. The best way to describe the music is to imagine Yngwie Malmsteem's Rising Force, minus Yngwie, if they were raised in Spain. **OVERLIFE** is progressive Heavy Metal with lots of choruses and emotion. The rest of the CD takes you on a journey of Spain with classic style Spanish guitar playing. So put a rose in your teeth, sit outside your sweethearts window and blast this out of your boombox and watch the Senoritas melt. I enjoyed some of this CD but the rest of it makes me a little queasy. Definitely not recommended for Death and Black Metal fans. You will end up breaking it over your head--especially when you see the bare-chested angel on the cover. Yikes!
Contact: Goldtrack Records P.O. Box 37062 28080 Madrid-Spain
Phone/Fax:(+34)91 669 4045
E-mail: goldtrack@arrakis.es • Web:www.arrakis.es/~goldtrack



The final destruction of the underpowered heater! ...alas I will miss going over at three o'clock in the morning to reboot thy system.-Jeremy

PROFOUND

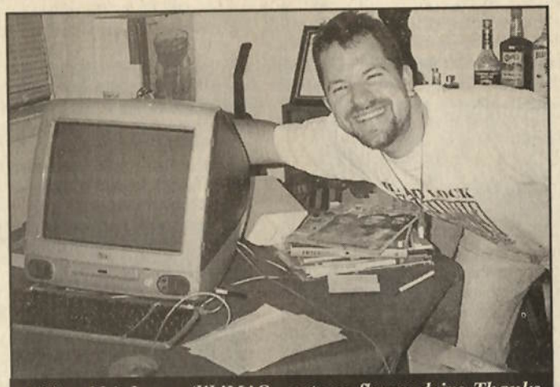
Break Down The Walls ***Demo***

PROFOUND is a Hardcore band from Belgium who feature Filip Priern, the editor of *Victim In Pain Zine*, as vocalist. I think in most cases when you get a tape from a fellow zinester dude that you are put in an awkward position. Me, I don't care. As a reviewer I've taken an extreme vow of ethics to stop the general public from buying crap. **PROFOUND** is not worthy of your dollar. **PROFOUND**'s simple and badly recorded Hardcore sounds like a band of friends fuckin' around. **PROFOUND** hasn't any talent and I don't think they will ever succeed. I could pick four guys off the street, give them music lessons and in a month I'd have them release a tape better than this. Well, at least his zine is pretty cool. I just hope he didn't start his zine just to promote this shitfest. Contact: **Profound** C/O Filip Priern, St. Amandstraat 12, 8760 Meulebeke, Belgium

PUNISHER

Disillusioned **Confusion Records**

These guys got it all going for them, a richly professional sounding CD, a Thrash album coming out at the perfect time, a great name, a nice album cover and they're on an indie label that supports them with a kick ass press kit. **PUNISHER** is Bay Area sounding all the way- the way it should be played. Ask Stevie from SKINLAB if he remembers having a pretty cool band called DEFIANCE that used to play pretty cool shit like this. It also reminds me of FORCED ENTRY and I hear a tad bit of TESTAMENT, but it's all good. **PUNISHER** is one of the few bands where the bass really adds to the whole dimension of the song. **PUNISHER** is the kick in the ass the Bay Area needs to get off MACHINE HEAD's dick and get back to the roots that makes Metal so great. Check it out and I dare you not to bang your head! The CD is available for $10.93. Make check or money order payable to Confusion Records. Contact: Confusion Records 4 Meyer Place, Kentfield, CA 94904 USA Phone#(408)249-4945 or E-mail:punisher@flash.net



Jeff and his happy 'lil iMAC...cute no floppy drive. Thanks MacMall!! What the hell do you mean it's back ordered!?!? Do you have any idea who I am!?!

RASPUTIN

Counter Revolution

Demo

I read an interview with this group in Kra'zine and thought the guy sounded pretty cool. I was curious about what his music sounded like, so I wrote him. Well, what a surprise! It's a Hip-Hop tape. Before you stop reading this review realize that it fuckin' rules! This is underground Rap. Some Metal is incorporated into it as well but that's not what makes this so excellent. It's totally original sounding. What a pleasant change of pace. The lyrics are cool little stories and lyrics are included so that you can follow around when he's rapping rapidly. You don't really need to because his Rap is totally decipherable. **RASPUTIN** samples lots of sound effects and other odd stuff. Where else would you hear somebody samplin' the intro to a WARLOCK song? I urge you to open your heads up and give this a shot. There is even a live tune on here that's actually pretty rockin'. If anything this is good bone smokin' music. This guy used to run a radio show and he's made buddies with a plethora of Metal dudes. Tom G. Warrior, WARRANT, DEATH, MORBID ANGEL, POISON and NASTY SAVAGE are just some of his amigos. If you don't take my word on this tape just ask one of those cats! Contact: **Rasputin** 6304-D Markstown Dr., Tampa, FL 33617 USA or E-mail tgarcia@Luna.cas.usf.eom

REO SPEEDEALER *Royalty Records*

This fuckin' rules! If you like dirty, slimy, heavy Rock N' Roll, then you have it here. This is the bastard child of MOTORHEAD and THE RAMONES and the wicked stepbrother of AC/DC. This is a bully to take WHITE ZOMBIE's thunder. 110% Pure Rock! Killer, killer stuff!! **REO SPEEDEALER** makes Rock N' Roll credible again with this band that plays fast, hard and heavy without becoming a Metal band. With all instruments plowing away and the vocalist screaming ala Lemmy on crack, tunes like "Turkey neck," "Cocaine Dave," "Pig Fucker," "Crank Bait" and "Pussy" become instant classics. Sex, Drugs and Rock N' Roll are all represented here. Who can resist their name? I'm sure Kevin Cronin and the rest of his cronies are mighty unhappy but to afraid to say something. Get this CD and crank this fucker up! All the way up!!! Band Contact: **Reo Speedealer** P.O. Box 720084 Dallas, Texas 75372-0084 USA Web:www.test.cle.com/reo.htm or Label Contact:Royalty Records 176 Madison Avenue Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10016 USA or E-Mail:RoyaltyRec@aol.com ***NOTE: REO SPEEDEALER is now know as SPEEDEALER after being sued by REO SPEEDWAGON***

RUINATION *Visionary Breed*

Goldtrack Records

RUINATION is from Lithuania and from the name of the group you don't expect to hear the kind of music that they play. **RUINATION** is heavily influenced by recent SENTENCED. **RUINATION** also initiates their own sound by adding soprano and alto recorders. **RUINATION** have definite talent and chops but their atmospheric, progressive, Rock, Doom, Power thing that they do just leaves me saying so-so. None of the tunes stick to memory and although there are a few decent riffs, nothing caused me to thrash my head or even move it for that matter. One song stood out as especially nice but it's the 14th song on the CD. Egads! Maybe in a few years after they have put out some more product they will improve, but I know I'll never reach for this CD again. Like I said, it doesn't suck, I just don't care about it. Maybe I'm partially picturing AINILUS (Think he gets picked on?) Staneika, who handles rhythm and lead guitar, lead and backing vocals, keyboards, soprano and alto recorders and acoustic guitar live. I also think some of the vocals will evoke laughter and ridicule from the audience. I'm sure this review didn't win you over but if it did contact: Goldtrack Records P.O. Box 37062, 28080 Madrid-Spain Phone/Fax: (+34)91 669 4045 E-mail: goldtrack@arrakis.es or Web: www.arrakis.es/~goldtrack

SACRILEGE

The Fifth Season ***Black Sun***

Really cool original artwork graces the cover of this CD and "Hey!" I can read the logo. What is this blasphemy? **SACRILEGE** plays a mean, yet sensible brand of Death Metal. What I mean by sensible is that the chaos is captured in pure crispness and not a muddled mess which happens in a lot of bands. Catchy interspersing riffs encapsulates these proceedings. **SACRILEGE**'s brand of Metal reminds me of what would happen if CARCASS's "Heartwork" and ENTOMBED's "Left Hand Path" had a baby boy. Awww...isn't he cute? Anyway you should get the idea from that description. If fast uncompromising Death mixed with highly melodic and talented precision plucking with bonus acoustic melodies thrown in for ambiance is your bag then SACRILEGE is the handle. Label Contact: Black Sun Records Box 129, S-401 22, Gothenburg, Sweden Phone#+46 31 150418 and Fax#+46 31 152340 Band Contact: **Sacrilege** C/O Daniel Dinsdab Backstigen 2, S-434 94 Vallda, Sweden E-mail:_gbg@hotmail.com

SENTENCED

Frozen **Century Media**

I've only recently been exposed to **SENTENCED** by listening to last years greatest hit's package. On that release I really enjoyed the different types of Metal that they have experimented with over the years. Whenever they toiled in the melodic spectrum they met with successful results in my book and obviously the world's as well. On "Frozen" they continue with their "new" METALLICA based Rock/Metal. **SENTENCED** is 1,000 times better than the "new" METALLICA though. Some Metalheads will probably find this to wimpy for their tastes especially if they were fans of the earlier **SENTENCED** material. The material on here ranges from the "new" METALLICA companioned with to Progressive and even touching on a hint of Jazz on the CD's last cut. The vocals sound phenomenal on here whether he's crooning ala James Hetfield or sounding surprisingly like Geoff Tate on track 4. "Frozen" is for fans of great music. If your searching for brutalness and speed this is not what you want to purchase, although if you appreciate talent and great song writing you're in the right place.

SEPULTURAL FEAST: A TRIBUTE TO SEPULTURA **Black Sun Records**

I love tribute records especially when they are as killer as this one. SEPULTURA rules! Here are the tracks and my two cents...

1. **Sacramentum**: "The Curse/Antichrist"...SACRAMENTUM should stick to doing cover tunes. Living up to the greatness of the cover they did for the MERCYFUL FATE tribute this rocks!!!
2. **Deathwitch**: "Necromancer"...Fuckin' fabulous! One of my favorite covers on here. I especially liked the Batman riff.
3. **Mystifier**: "Warriors of Death"...So so version.
4. **Swordmaster**: "Warriors of Death"... Way better than MYSTIFIER's version. They should have left off MYSTIFIER's version or had them do another tune. SWORDMASTER attacks the song with a viscius conviction that would make SEPULTURA proud.
5. **Dimension Zero**: "Troops of Doom"...Brutal version of this classic! The band has a shitty name though.
6. **Lord Belial**: "Crucifixion"...LORD BELIAL Aaargghhhhhh! These demonic Black Metaller's really come through on this one. Now when the fuck are you boy's going to send back my friggin' interview.
7. **Deflesh**: "Beneath the Remains"...I've heard that this band kicks ass! Well, they do on this at least.
8. **Implous**: "Inner Self"...Killer!
9. **Children of Bodom**: "Mass Hypnosis"....I dig the band's name. I like the keyboards as well. Very cool. Also classic guitar riffing.
10. **The Crown**: "Arise"...The Crown brings more than adequate justice to this tune.
11. **Exhumation**: "Territory"...'nutter good tune.
12. **Gooseflesh**: "Slave New World"...This band was reviewed in #2 and received a good review. It's amazing how the vocalist does a dead on Max without slipping into a Swedish accent
13. **Slavestate**: "Roots Bloody Roots....Another band that was reviewed in #2! Amazing how they transformed their normal sound to make this cover.
14. **Gardenian**: "Cut Throat"...Yeah! Another brutal version.
15. **Denial**: "Ratamahatta"...One word, Rules!!!!!

All in all, one hell of a package. Essential for all SEPULTURA fans and recommended to all Metal fans of the underground and above! Contact: Black Sun Records Box 129, S-401 22 Gothenburg, Sweden

SERPENT

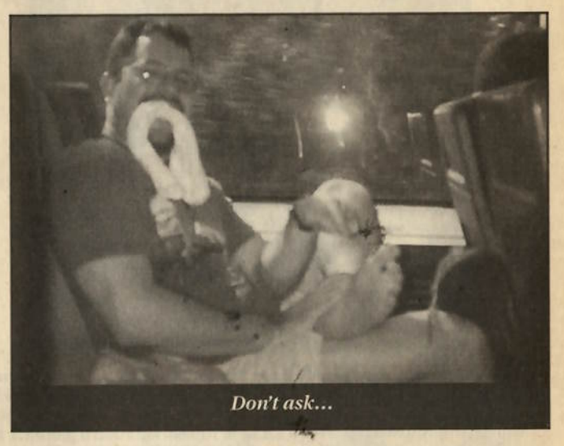
Autumn Ride **Heathendoom Music**

SERPENT is a Doomy/Rock/Metal band out of Sweden. What they're playing on this release is almost identical to the slow Doom Grind the early Ozzy era BLACK SABBATH reveled in. There is also a drop of TROUBLE thrown in. I yearn for more of the TROUBLE based moments because their Doom Metal had quite a bit more modern jamming to it. I know this sounds controversial but try this on for size. The early Ozzy era BLACK SABBATH bores me to tears just like this CD does. The Dio Sabbath era blew the Ozzy era Sabbath out of the water. But in turn the Ozzy solo stuff blows away Dio era Sabbath. Huh? Does that make any sense? Some of the early Sabbath was pretty cool but a lot of it was numb, fuckin', boring, hippy shit. Maybe if I was a teenager in the age of Aquarius, I would have dug it but I grew up with Dio era Sabbath and solo Ozzy. That's the music that rules to me. I can't even listen to any Ozzy era Sabbath because even the cool songs have been played so many damn times and have been butchered by so many bands that it makes me numb. I guess **SERPENT** makes me numb as well. Why do they have two guitarists? They barely utilize the one. It sounds as if they are playing after too many quaaludes. If you like the old school style Sabbath that chugs you to rock-a-bye-baby then you'll love this. If you prefer Metal a bit more upbeat and with some balls than this is not for you. CD is available for $20. Contact: **Serpent** Box 165, 132 25 Saltsjo-B00, Sweden or Label Contact: Heathendoom Music Box 36, 114 79 Stockholm, Sweden Phone: +46 8 16 57 70 • Fax :+46 8 15 89 51 E-Mail:heathendoom.music@swipnet.se

SKITZO

Put Your Face In Jesus ***Demo***

How can you resist a CD cover with a photo of a huge vagina opened wider than Timbuktu? It looks like the lips were super glued to her thighs. What makes this CD so special besides the cover is that... *"the CD glassmaster was placed over the heart of the creator/composer of this record while he was under deep hypnosis for twelve hours. It was then transferred over the heart of a young female corpse directly into this CD. This process of diffusionate renders an entity from the corpse directly into the CD. The CD was made in quantities of 666 only so the entity stays in all the CD's."*...Huh? Well, that's what it says on the back of the CD with pictures to prove it. After looking at and reading all this shit I figured the CD's music would be total trite. I was wrong. The CD which features stories read under the spell of a psychiatrist is an interesting concept. In between songs are snippets of the protagonist speaking with the psychiatrist. The music which changes with each track ranges from Metal to Punk to Hardcore to Sick Ballads of Love. Musically it's as intriguing as the CD cover and the stories. You'll find yourself anticipating what's to come next. The name of the CD is actually "Psychobabble" which is a pretty accurate explanation of their sound. All sickos are encouraged to check this out. It's hilarious fun! **SKITZO** "Put Your Face In Jesus" (Available for those 18 years of age or older) is available for only $8. Also available is a regular cover for the same price just for the kids. (It doesn't have the humongous pussy lips on it.) A previous CD "Sign Us or Suck Us" is also $8 or you can purchase a rare **SKITZO** skulling CD for $15. They also have videos for sale: **SKITZO** live in 1988 which features a destruction derby car, interviews and green puke everywhere. Also available is the **SKITZO** Vomitorium video which is a 15 year collage of continuous puking and two videos which have way too much gore and puke for MTV viewing. C'mon do you want to miss Lance puking in his unfaithful girlfriends mouth during their break-up kiss? You can also get the film Holy Moly which is written/directed/ and starring Lance. It's a horror film about a priest possessed by an evil being who commands the priest to commit grisly murders in a small town. Video's are $15 each or all for just $40! If that's not enough crap for you their are **SKITZO** coffee mugs with color puke shots for $5 and Skitzo buttons for $1. Contact: **Skitzo** P.O. Box 1721 Healdsburg, CA 95448 USA Fax:707-433-8464 Phone: 707-433-NUTS Web: www.members.aol.com/skitzo70



Don't ask...

SLAYER

Diabolus In Musica **American/Columbia**

I'm a happy lad with another new **SLAYER** album to listen to. **SLAYER** is by far one of my favorite bands ever and I look forward to a new **SLAYER** album even more than my birthday. If you're a friend of mine then you'll know what a bold statement that is. I make my friends and family accept the fact that my birthday is a national holiday. **SLAYER**'s new one may make you cringe at first but is a veritable grower. There is a little flavor of all their previous albums mixed in on here. Even a good dose of their Punk album covers is mixed in on here. But **SLAYER** has shifted gears on here in production which gives the album a whole new dimension. The sound has a technical/machine like quality which is most prevalent in Tom's voice. Before you go and panic it's hasn't become Dance music, Prong or something like that. It just sounds like a lot of effects were used. Although there are "Reign in Blood" like sections most of it's done in a slower-jam like style. I would definitely have preferred more fast parts, but fuck me what do they care what I think? A decent **SLAYER** album overall but most asuredly not their best. **Note:** I also saw them live recently and was a little disappointed in the fact that they took a break after each song to listen to the screams of the crowd and listen for requests. It took away from the intensity of the concert. Usually when you see them play non-stop for an hour and fifteen to an hour and a half you'll leave drained and satiated with delight. This time, although I don't regret seeing them, the concert just didn't reach it's usual perfection.

T.A.R.

Fear of Life **Heathendoom Music**

This is one of the strangest and most interesting concepts a band has ever created. The recording is based on a author named Jacob Werner who is a fictional caricature invented by vocalist Torbjorn Sandberg.

The record differs from the usual theme albums because the songs are not "the story" but part of the stories and life of Jacob Werner. The first half of the record shows us what Jacob wrote as an author while the second half is told in first person by Jacob himself. Now that's complex! The vocals remind me of a much better version of the vocalist of NUCLEAR ASSAULT. The music is really different. It's a cross between old school Thrash and modern day QUEENSRYCHE with some Rock and even a pleasant acoustic number. Some parts remind me of 80's band TOXIC. **T.A.R.** does have their own sound and it's punctuated with many time changes and clever guitar riffing that's not too "smart" for you. When I read the introduction written by Jacob Werner, I really thought he was a real person and I felt great compassion for his rather "Sad Sack" existence. Intelligent writing and good music makes this a rather moody and innovative release. I also enjoyed the little typewriting sound clips thrown in here and there so you remember this about a writer. **Recommended!** The CD is $20. Label Contact: Heathendoom Music Box 36 S-114 79, Stockholm, Sweden

Here we have the captivating Maria holding the HAMMERFALL CD, arriving the night before the freakin' concert!!!!!

TEARS OF EUPHONY

Demo

This CD was sent to me with a note. The note said that most bands send all kinds of stuff like bio's, photos etc. but in their case they would simply like to be known for their music. Isn't that a gimmick in itself? Want an example? How about THE BEATLES "White Album" or METALLICA's "Black Album." It doesn't really matter to me what you include in the packaging because it doesn't influence at all what I think of the music. All it does is give me more stuff to write about or make fun of. **TEARS OF EUPHONY** have an intriguing sound. Picture if you will, a soft classical tune with MACHINE HEAD like simple riffs and Death vocals that are truly Death but not overpowering. **TEARS OF EUPHONY** have also captured a lot of the essence of METALLICA's "And Justice For All." The guitar tone sound's almost identical. **TEARS OF EUPHONY** are assuredly unique and very worthy of your boo-koo-lauries. One thing that really makes this stand out is the fact that my daughter really likes it. I was playing it and she was headbanging!!! She doesn't like Heavy Metal at all, but she liked it so much that she requested that I bring it to the car, so she could listen to it some more! A Metal first at the Rappaport home! Check it out for yourself and maybe your seven year old daughter will love it as well. Send 80DK R/20 DM/$15 USA to: **Tears of Euphony**, Kliplev Nygade 5, 6200 Aabenraa, Denmark

TONE DEAF TEENS

1% **Crash The Lua Records**

I usually don't go for this stuff but this band is really catchy and talented. This is Modern Day Rock/80's Rock/Hawaiian Tropical Music with a lot of happy beats mixed in for a special treat. I enjoyed the music and I wasn't even drunk. The guitar playing is of a special note. Solo's are simple, original and jamming but not over indulgent. You also get lots of funky bass playing. Lyrically it's just as fun. All in all a pleasant release to listen to when you just feel like being jolly. From the band photos these teens(?) seem to be having a good time. Instead of the usual band photos the band is placed in a pie chart with each member doing pretty much nothing. One guy is aimlessly switching channels, one's sleeping with the cat, one is on the toilet jamming and the other one looks like I usually do, stressed out and exhausted at the computer at 2:30 A.M. I'm just kidding, I love my computer. Don't get mad at me Mr. Computer and take eight friggin' hours to down load every site I visit, like you usually do (Note: This was before Mr iMAC came aboard!). Hey! These dudes are Hawaiian's too! Maybe if I kiss their ass a little more, I can get a free place to stay, if I decide to visit! Ha ha ha...no, just kidding. "1%" is just a real nice release that a lot of my non and not-non(?) Metal readers will enjoy. I also like how they close the CD with "The Goodbye Song" which features the sound of beers opening and happy laughter. Hey! You also get 15 songs here. A great bunch of music for your money! Contact: Crash The Lua Records P.O. Box 1651, Pearl City, HI 96782 USA
E-Mail:bt@crashthelua.com Website: www.crashthelua.com

TWEAKED

Breaking the Curse **Crash The Lua Records**

More cool shit from Hawaii! Once again music I wouldn't usually enjoy but **TWEAKED** does it so well. **TWEAKED** is a mixture of GREEN DAY, THE MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSSTONES, and a little Thrash all mixed with that Hawaiian flavor. Man, this happy little island releases some fun stuff. I guess living in Hawaii wouldn't make you want to write Death Metal lyrics. (Although some are ass kicking inspired lyrics, you wouldn't know by the beat.) I can't see their climate causing that kind of anger. I guess if a volcano erupted and melted a bunch of people's heads then they would become a Death Metal band. Hey, I'm just guessing here. If you like Greendayish, Poppy Punk bands that are just a whole lot of fun, then this is for you. It's really good to mosh to as well. There are 20 songs but most are in the two minute range. No overblown wildling on here. (See above for contact address)

VELOCITY

Impact ***Rockhard Music***

With a name like **VELOCITY** and a CD entitled "Impact" I was expecting something different. **VELOCITY** is a Hard Rock/Light Metal band that closely resembles NIGHT RANGER and FIREHOUSE. It's very commercial and sounds as if it's straight out of 1991. Although music like this rarely moves me anymore, what **VELOCITY** does is nice. The guitar playing is top notch and full of catchy hooks and the cheesy solos that we loved so much. Vocally, we have a true Hard Rock vocalist who could stand his own with any other bands of that genre. If Melodic Metal is what you enjoy, **VELOCITY** is an above average although not incredible, way to spend close to an hour. The CD is filled with many fine moments especially the smokin' "Open Road." It's also filled with a quite a few average moments. I do like their slogan "Follow your own path, even if sometimes it seems like your path sucks." Also there is bonus fun on here. Pat Torpey formerly of MR BIG plays the drums on here. Contact: Rockhard Music Media, LLC P.O. Box 803, San Ramon, CA 94583 USA
E-Mail: davidv@rockhardmusic.com
Web: www.rockhardmusic.com Phone:(925)743-1601

VIGILANTE

Chaos Pilgrimage ***Demo***

Wow! That's what I have to say! Wow! Japan never ceases to amaze me with the awesome bands they have that are hidden from our ears. **VIGILANTE** shouldn't be hidden anymore. "Chaos Pilgrimage" is awe-inspiring. **VIGILANTE**'s sound consists of influences from NWOBHM, 80's Thrash, Power Metal and 90's Progressive Rock. This decade old band sounds like an all-star supergroup. The awe-inspiring air siren vocals, dual guitar hystronics, innovative bass lines and precision, pile driving drumming are all here. You also get one of the best productions I've ever heard in a demo. Hell, it's one of the best I've heard in a professional recording. Even the ballad rocks. If you like PRIMAL FEAR, any kind of Power Metal or the classic sounds of MAIDEN and PRIEST then this is a must-have album. It's $20 world wide which may seem a little steep but shipping and handling are included. So what ever you have to do even if it means the kids drink Kool-Aid instead of milk, just get $20 and mail it out immediately. **VIGILANTE** is Metal! Contact: **Vigilante**, Inc., #104, Wingkuden, 2-22-30, Nikura, Wako-shi, Saitama, 351-0115, Japan Fax#+81 48 463-6187 E-Mail: vigiletter@aol.com

VISION OF DISORDER

Imprint **RoadRunner**

Another band that I missed at Ozzfest that I'm disappointed about. Two stages are a big fuckin' pain in the ass. **V.O.D.** music is explosive and fully reminds me of a cross of a between COAL CHAMBER, PANTERA, KORN, FEAR FACTORY and a mite bit of Hardcore. Soft, soulful vocals mix with a lot of extremely and totally pissed off screaming to great effect. Anger with a groove. This causes you to do that thing where you swing your head and move your feet but your body stands still. C'mon, you know the thing. Especially ruling is the bone jarring duel with Phil Anslemo, when those two fuckers scream together it's like poetry in motion. I tell you it's a hell of a lot better than those two mediocre bonus tracks on last year's PANTERA LIVE CD. It took 19 days to put this together, Which gives it a real raw live feel. There are a couple of tunes that sound like throw aways but all in all a pretty solid sophomore release from Long Island NY's new rocket machine, **VISION OF DISORDER.**

VOIVOD

Phobos **Slip Disc Records**

I think here with **VOIVOD**'s 10th album they have found a perfect home for their machine like/Techno/Weirdo/Trippy Metal. Slip Disc which is a label with mainly Industrial and Techno like bands is the perfect stomping grounds for this French-Canadian threesome. **VOIVOD** has now gone back to their roots. They are re-energized and heavier then ever. If you loved the first couple of tapes then you wil go ape-shit wild over "Phobos." It reminds me of a Spacy version of CORONER. Of course they are also continuing, lyrically that is, on the epic tale of the **VOIVOD.** Jason Newsted helped write the track "M-Body" which proves he still has an interest in heavy music. **VOIVOD** also does a Sabbathy like version of KING CRIMSON's "21st Century Schizoidman." After over 15 years together **VOIVOD** has released one of their best ever. Now come to my area and tour so that I can come see you! If you have never heard **VOIVOD** then shame on you! Their original brand of Metal "Rules!!!" Pick up "Phobos" it would be a great start.

VONDUR

The Galactic Rock N' Roll Empire **Necropolis**

Right away when I opened this package from Necropolis and saw the cover I started laughing my ass off! The guys are dressed like the cover of MOTLEY CRUE's "Shout At The Devil." **VONDUR** runs the extreme from absolute poopie to pure fuckin' sonic terror. **VONDUR** does a bunch of cover tunes on here which are all creative and shreddin'! The songs covered on here are ELVIS PRESLEY's "Love Me Tender," JUDAS PRIEST's "Rocka Rolla" and MOTLEY CRUE's "Red Hot." The play so ridiculously fast and distorted that it sounds like an alien space craft is landing on your roof! So enjoy this MCD from IT and ALL (Nice names!) but hold onto your remote changer unless you would like the alien space craft to come take you away and give you an alien probe. Available at fine stores everywhere or through Necropolis. Contact: Necropolis P.O. Box 14815 Fremont, CA 94539-4815 USA Fax:(510)623-0927 E-Mail:Necropol@aol.com

WARHEAD

Raping of Angels **Elegy Records**

Raping of Angels? Raping of Angels? Is that friendly or what? The CD cover is great and only slightly less than perfect due to an illegible logo. What do you expect? **WARHEAD** plays mainly Death Metal with some elements of Black thrown in for good spice. The down falls of the album are the guitars are slightly lacking in the crunch department and some parts are a little to over melodramatic. That causes the CD to stagnate at some points. On the up side some of the experimentation they do on the CD is done quite well. It definitely gives the band their own sound. Good use of dual vocals on here as well. In fact there is lots of cool vocal tones throughout this whole CD. Also a lot of staple Classical guitar playing is weaved through and through the recording. The highlight of the CD is the epic classic in the making "The Sodomizing." After they close that number they treat you to a chilling soundtrack to Hell with "Mass Grave." I'm not sure where they found those frightened screams and grunts but they have a sickening effect on your mind. Just when you think the CD is over they come back on with a bunch of encore bonus tracks. The first one sounds like a MASSACRE cover and the second one just sounds mind numbingly insane. Then for number three you get SLAYER with "Hell Awaits!" Yay! They don't play the whole thing but this is still a worthy package. Contact: Elegy Records 248 Lakeview Ave. Suite #319, Clifton, NJ 07011 USA Phone: (201)614-0670 Fax: (201)365-2323 E-Mail: Elegy666@aol.com
Web: www.ElegyRecords.com

WARRIOR

Ancient Future ***Metal Blade***

Alright! After 12 years of inactivity, **WARRIOR** is back! Yay! **WARRIOR**? Yay? Yahoo? Who the Hell is **WARRIOR**? I don't know, don't ask me. Their bio says they're a Power Metal band. Nah, I say they are much closer to a dime a dozen Cock-Rock band. Do you care about BANG TANGO? No, I didn't think so. You won't care about this either. It has some good hooks, the vocals aren't bad but there is just so much over saturation in today's market that you can't support this kind of mediocrity. Were the people really clamoring for the return of this band that only released one other album way back in 1985? I didn't think so. I believe Metal Blade is really reaching on this one.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE OFFICIAL METAL RULES! MAGAZINE WEBSITE OF CHAMPIONS?
WWW.HADDONS.COM/METALRULES

Wedding Report

Maybe I'm too nice of a guy. That's what I've been told anyway. I'm the kind of guy that a girl would want to finally settle down with. Just getting to that "settling down" stage has been bit of a hurdle recently. Over the past four months I've attended four different weddings and went stag to all of them. I'm not a moronic loser. Honest. For the first of that quadruple shot of marriages I DID have a date - in fact it was my current girlfriend. We broke up two weeks before the wedding. Pre-marriage nerves I guess. And it wasn't even her wedding.

Since that time, and that was mid-July, I haven't had a date. No dates equal no sex. My dick is so fucking hard-up that the next girl whose hand I even hold will set me off. There I'll be: my first date in months and premature ejaculation stains will already be soaking my Dockers. I'm even getting turned on looking at that Mrs. Butterworth's Syrup bottle that sits on my kitchen counter... her eyes following my every move. Hell, I'm so horny that when Jeff calls me in the dead of night, waking me from deep sleep and that constantly reoccurring adolescent dream of myself, Hot Lips Hoolihan and Heather Thomas in a hot tub, that when he puts on that squeaky Jenna Jameson fuck-voice that he does so well, I actually believe... well, enough of that.

Jeff is a fucking great dude. Of all those weddings I attended this summer, it was his and Maria's that I felt most honored to attend. I mean, really, who am I to these fine people that I get to witness the happiest day of their lives together? Maria cuts my hair. Jeff peddles kiddie porn and comic books to me and sometimes allows me to contribute to this mag. Actually, I apologize for that last sentence. Jeff is a serious businessman and would NEVER condone the selling of comic books.

The actual ceremony was rather quick for a Roman Catholic wedding. Being an ex-Catholic myself, I have had engrained within me all those endless prayers to the Virgin Mary and to all those countless saints. I've always pictured the perfect ceremony to emulate that of the one depicted at the end of Mel Brooks' SPACEBALLS:

Priest: "Do you?"

Lone Star: "Yes."

Priest: "Do you?"

Princess Vespa: "Yes."

Priest: "Fine. You're married."

Happiness ensues.

Although not quite as extreme, Jeff and Maria's came rather close. And for the first time that I can recall, the priest actually stepped away from the podium and talked directly to the bride and groom during the homily. I consider this to be pretty modern thinking on the behalf of the priest. Maybe he just wanted to get to the free bar at the reception like everyone else.

At the reception, I sat at a quite diverse table. Half the table were comic geeks associated with the store; the other, hairstylists from Maria's salon. Oh yes, one can imagine the conversation topics. After the ladies departed, the guys were left to totally geek out on all things comics: likes, dislikes, rumors, collections, letter-writing, convention stories. Half-an-hour in, I turned to this older gentleman who was politely sitting there on the fringe of the semi-circle we were lost in. I apologized for excluding him from the conversation. "No, not at all," was his reply. "I've been fascinated with your stories and have had no difficulty in following."

By now he had all of our attention. "How can this be?" one from the group asked. "Oh, I used to own the ComiCrypt. I was the one who sold it to Mike."

Yup. He showed us. He then went on with some of his own tales and cited some of his favorite comics from both yesterday and today. Then he started throwing trivia our way. Just a little at a time until the grand finale.

"Who here knows the Green Lantern oath?"

Do I need go on? Do I need to sit here and recite the yarn in which I stood, clenched fist in air, proclaiming those solemn words which have be spoken time and again by an imaginary hero who is no more?

No, I didn't think so. Perhaps now the picture is becoming clearer as to why I haven't had a date in months.

Another first for a wedding: I don't ever recall dancing to Heavy Metal at a reception before. Nor do I recall there ever being a mosh pit at one. Then again, what would one expect from the creator of METAL RULES! MAGAZINE? Yes, the family got their time to dance to that accursed "Electric Slide," but the VAN HALEN, OZZY OSBOURNE and METALLICA that followed was strictly for Jeff and his friends. At one point, Jeff even assembled all the comic book geeks out onto the dance floor. What a sorry time that was, for comic book geeks can't dance. Well, I can. And I did. I enjoy dancing, even to the

JUDAS PRIEST music that was playing, a genre of music that is missing, I say missing, dammit(!), from the club scene. Kevin, another of the attendees and a friend of mine, actually breakdanced. He was the breakdancing dude. I haven't breakdanced since junior high school back in the mid eighties. This dude moved like he had never stopped.

As unique as this wedding was, there were those aspects that can be found at other receptions. There is always that one cousin who enjoys the free bar a little more than the rest of the guests and proceeds to tell everyone in the hall just how happy he is at great lengths but only manages to repeat the same seven words. The groom removed the bride's garter, but in this case, Maria's was so far up her long leg, that Jeff accidentally grabbed her g-string instead. My respect for that woman increased exponentially. And the best man's toast included incriminating evidence about Jeff that would have closed a certain sheriff's casefile if he had been invited.

The funny thing about weddings is the genuine happiness that exists at the event. And no, this isn't a fake "I have to be nice to you" happiness or even that nervous type of happiness that occurs at odd occasions where too much attention is focused on you. I felt this all-too genuine, all-too foreign feeling at Jeff and Maria's. Their wedding was one of the most relaxed gatherings I've attended.

I don't think Jeff and I have ever shook hands. Three years and perhaps we shook hands once - perhaps. Yet at the wedding, he hugged me. Three times. And it's not because he's attracted to me, either. Maria even hugged me once or twice. See... happiness. And no, it is not that I am UNhappy, thus rejoicing upon discovering a foreign emotion, for I am quite content, a level that most people have not attained, rather this was a different kind of happiness. One of completeness. With that in mind, how can one forget that memorable line from JERRY MAGUIRE... "You complete me." Cheesy and overly romantic? Perhaps, but it is a powerful statement.

See? I'm a nice guy. This what I think about in moments of serious levity. Jeff found a great gal. If Maria can withstand and even humor Jeff's cavalier attitude and passions for Heavy Metal and, yes, even comic books, then perhaps their is such a woman out there for me. And if there's not, I'm going to kill Jeff and steal Maria for myself.

-Joe Kucharski, III

HOLY MOTHER INTERVIEW

When I heard this I was blown away!! I knew it was interview time!! The interview is with drummer Jim Harris!

Metal Rules: How did HOLY MOTHER form and when?

Holy Mother: Holy Mother formed in 1993, about 6 months prior to our first release with Cream records (now known as ABS). I had just gotten off the road with DIRTY LOOKS and I called Mike Tirelli up (Mike and I were good friends for many years, and we did three records together with Jack Starr and BURNING STARR back in 1987-88) and suggested that we get together to write some songs. I was leaving DIRTY LOOKS and looking to put together a Metal band, and Mikes voice was perfect. Mike at the time was writing songs with STEELHEART guitarist Kenny Andrews, and also playing speratic shows with bassist Randy Coven. Mike also was looking to put together a band and suggested we jam with Coven, and Coven suggested guitarist Spike Francis (who was later replaced by Rich Naso). So we got together and wrote some songs that we thought had a really cool unique feel about them and we decided to send them to the Head of the ABS record label (at the time it was Cream Records). It was the only tape we sent out and we got signed. We chose to send the tape to ABS because this is the record label that Mike And I were on with BURNING STARR back in 1988, and I had always kept in touch with Axel (the label president) because he always showed a special interest in my playing, Mike's voice and Mike and my song writing. After doing the first record with Cream Records, we landed a management deal and we were promised the world if we followed the guidelines of the management/ lawyer team...so we did it put a hold on the evolution of the Holy Mother sound...which we do regret. We were instructed to hold off on the screaming...not too much drum fills...not too much lead...write the hit!—write the Hit!, and the band was Too Metal for America. That year we released a CD under the name N.O.W. "Tabloid Crush". It had a more alternative feel. It took us in directions that were interesting... but it just wasn't us...it wasn't our roots. We called the project N.O.W. because it was cool to the management team...but to us it meant NOT OUR WORLD. After this release the band got word from Europe that it did not sell as well as Holy Mother and we were going to lose the fan base that we established with the first Holy Mother record, if we didn't do something. So...we decided that what we really wanted was to play the Metal music that we grew up playing and listening to...to apply this music with NO restrictions, and NO HOLDS BARRED. So we fired our Management team in America and went to Germany to be in the heart of the largest Heavy Metal scene in the world, and to record a record that would release 2 years of aggression, with No restrictions. And so we recorded TOXIC RAIN. (Holy crap does this guy like to babble! He's even worse than me!! -Jeff)

MR: I heard some of you guys have been in other bands. What bands and how were your experiences in those bands?

HM: To give you some of the history of the guys in Holy Mother...Mike Tirelli was the Singer of BURNING STARR back in 1987-89, he also sang for LAST LICKS, and was a session singer for two local studios in New York. Randy Coven has played with Mountain, Leslie West, Steve Vai, Blues Saraceno, Jeff Watson, CPR (which featured Randy and Al Pitrelli), and he has two solo instrumental albums released on Guitar recordings. Jim Harris has played with DIRTY LOOKS, RUMBLE DOG (with mem bers of RATT, and LAW AND ORDER), SCARECROW (with Members of TWISTED SISTER) and BURNING STARR. Richie Naso comes from a New York club favorite called SIMON BARR SINISTER I can't speak for all of the band members regarding their experiences with their past projects and bands, but I can tell you from my experiences that I am grateful to have been able to see most of the world through Rock and Metal...but "its a long way to the top if you wanna rock and roll"... and I hope we are on our way, because we have all paid a lot of dues.

MR: I understand your quite popular over in Germany. Do you plan to try to conquer your native Country?

HM: We are really grateful for our popularity in Germany and Europe. Its a great place for Heavy Metal, because it never died over there. I really do hope that it surfaces more in America...I mean I know its here but its a lot underground, and on the internet. It's so huge in Germany and Europe, there are festivals all the time . We really need it here in America. There is too much bull shit music with with no aggression and I think that the kids today need the release of banging their heads and fists in the air at a Metal show instead of taking out their agres sions through things like weapons. Computer games are also a good way to release aggression, and the best is a computer game with a Heavy Metal band doing the sound track.

MR: This is a special Wedding Issue for Metal Rules. Tell us your most insane wedding story.

HM: So this is the Wedding issue...I'm gonna leave the insane Wedding stories to "Peoples Funniest Home Videos"...Half of the Band is Married and The other half is not...and I really can't recall anything insane happening on my wedding...other than the usual Drunk with Montezuma's Revenge in Cancun Mexico.

MR: What bands have you toured with? Who was cool and who were dicks?

HM: Bands we toured with...Its funny but aside from touring, we have played locally with everyone under the sun. Back when Mike and I were in BURNING STARR we were managed by an owner of the biggest rock club on Long Island and we were in a MTV commercial for the club and the club owner (our manager) had us play in front of every 80s Metal band that came to town...I'm talking everyone from CINDERELLA to WHITE LION. Most were cool but some were real dicks. I wont say who but I will say that the most Dangerous audience we played for...I'm talkin' worshiping hard core Metal heads, was when we played with MANOWAR and the band was the coolest. As far as me touring...Life on the road with DIRTY LOOKS was a great experience, but what broke that band was a members Dr Jeckyl/Mr Hyde personality which stemmed from his alcoholism and drug abuse. Those tours were a roller coaster ride! So far most of the touring with HOLY MOTHER has put us in Europe as a headliner or at festivals, and we are looking forward to touring again in 1999.

MR: Tell us your most humorous tour story.

HM: Humorous road stories... To tell you the truth, most of t he road stories that I remember were more of the dangerous events than the funny ones. With DIRTY LOOKS there was a few close calls, busts, fights, getting kicked out of Hotels, getting lost in the middle of nowhere, and that sort of thing. With HOLY MOTHER its been pretty smooth. As long as we can keep Randy in line (he is a bit of a wild man) we'll be okay. It's also important to be sure that Mike doesn't wear such fancy coats while in the streets of German cities like Bochum. He almost got us all killed one night when he decided to flirt with some girls in the Red Light district. He was wearing a $700 suede and leather coat with a fox fur collar and his St. Marks street shoes, and all the German pimps surrounded us with guns in hand. We had a member of the stage team with us who spoke German and he instructed us to walk slowly out of the district, then run like hell because they thought Mike was an American Pimp/porn producer come to steal their girls and take them back to America with him...again it was more scary than funny.

MR: Your album cover has some sort of Metal mascot on it. What is his name? Is he around for good?

HM: The metal Mascot on our TOXIC RAIN CD is "TOX". He is the brainchild of this band and was created by a Belgian artist, Eric Phillipe. TOX will appear again on our next CD CRIMINAL AFTERLIFE and is here to stay.

MR: Although I love your music I'm less than fond of your band name. Why did you name your band that? Do you have religious mommies or something?

HM: HOLY MOTHER is a Brooklyn expression which just means "wow" or "holy shit". We used it a lot growing up and hanging out in the Brooklyn area. It actually was not meant to have any Religious meaning at all. "HOLY SHIT!" might have made it more difficult to display our CD on a record stores rack.

MR: What Metal bands do you hear that you're fond of? Which bands blow?

HM: We really like a lot of Metal bands and Classic Rock bands. We like JUDAS PRIEST, IRON MAIDEN, SABBATH, DIO, ZEPPELIN, QUEENSRYCHE, FEAR FACTORY, RAMMSTEIN, SEVENDUST, DEFTONES, AEROSMITH, STABBING WESTWARD, MEGADETH, and so on...We don't like MARILYN MANSON, PEARL JAM, The New VAN HALEN, and Death bands that have singers that growl instead of singing.

MR: I wanna have a really cool section like Metal Edge where they ask a poignant question to all the artists and then print all their eloquent answers. So what's your favorite salad dressing? (I can hardly wait for the answer!)

HM: Salad Dressing??????? What the fuck??? (Aw man, now he went and hurt my feelings. -Jeff)

MR: How's ABS records treating you? Any other bands on that label that we should watch out for?

HM: ABS Records has been good to us. We would honestly prefer to be on a larger label, but at least with ABS we can go to Europe every year to tour and record, and produce a good quality recording in the heart of the Metal capital of the world. Some other bands to check out on ABS are...SYRIS, FIERCE CONVICTION, and BULL HORN as well as releases by Timo Tolkki (guitarist of Stratovarious) and BURNING STARR re-release. The Web site address is www.clm.de .

MR: Tell us your five favorite uses for a coffee stirrer. Don't use the typical answer of removing stillborn frog fetuses.

HM: coffee stirrer? (Jeff's crying now! Thanks guy! -Jeremy)

MR: Why of all the PRIEST covers you could choose did you pick such a cliche one? (Even though you did do it justice.)

HM: JUDAS PRIEST is one of our all time favorite bands. We wanted to do a JUDAS PRIEST song, so why not do their most popular song? Their is a whole new generation of kids listening to Metal now. We didn't want to do a J.P. song that some of our fans did not recognize and think that it is a HOLY MOTHER song. The song was meant as a tribute to PRIEST and to show some of the past influences of the band members of HOLY MOTHER.

Continued on page ...44

Death Angus INTERVIEW

Editor's Note: DEATH ANGUS is a strange band from an even stranger land–Westmont, NJ!! They feel that their "special" brand of Black Metal will start a new trend throughout the world. We managed to catch up with the two main members of the accursed group...Esophagus and Lord Epidoral. They agreed to give us some of their precious shed burning time. So, without further adieu' here's DEATH ANGUS...

Metal Rules: First of all I want to touch on your name. Do you really hate AC/DC that much?

Esophagus: It is an homage to Angus because he is such an inspiration to us musically.

MR: Your obvious stage names are of course made up tough guy names. Your real names are probably like Gertie or Myron or something. How did you come up with these names?

Esophagus: Well let's see...we took out our 20 sided dice and rolled following the rules laid out in a back issue of DRAGON MAGAZINE and those were the names we got.

Lord Epidoral: Pretty cool, huh?

MR: Why do you hate Christianity so much? What did Christ do to make you so sore with him?

Lord Epidoral: Odin came to us in a vision (ya know he's much smaller in person) anyway Old One Eyed Willy as we like to call him said to us-and I quote, "Fuck 'em".

Esophagus: Either that or it was the burritos talkin.

MR: I hear the terror of burning down Churches wasn't enough for your sick, twisted little heads. Now you are burning down sheds. Why?

Lord Epidoral: Volume baby, volume! It's a little known fact that there are more sheds than churches.

MR: Why can't you play nice with other children?

Lord Epidoral: They won't let us play in any reindeer games and stuff...bitches!

MR: It seems your music has an almost dancy feel to it? Is this a secret plot to try to invade our Nations Nightclubs?

Esophagus: Well you know sometimes Gastritis likes to shake his groove thang

MR: If you met Satan what would you say to him?

Lord Epidoral:Who?? Oh that guy, yeah there's some bad blood between us.

Esophagus: We had to kick him out of the band after that whole Titties & Beer thing

MR: If he told you to turn around and grab your ankles would you do such a thing with a smile upon your face?

Esophagus: Well, I can speak for everyone, but Lord Epidoral–

Lord Epidoral: (Interuptingly) -GODDAMMIT Esophagus! How many times do I have to tell you guys I-AM-NOT-GAY you fat fuck!"

Esophagus: -he's kinda funny ya know.

MR: Tell us about your childhood upbringing that turned you into the evil,vile creatures that you are.

Lord Epidoral: Well when I was young my dad kept giving me big naked hugs and my Grandfather kept taking out his teeth. The worst part was when I found out my mother was a man. It was horrible.

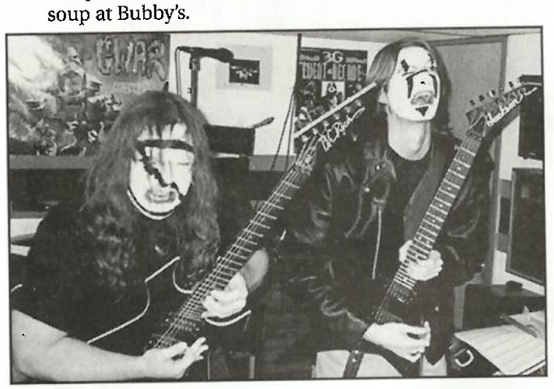
Esophagus: Well, Gastritis went to Catholic School, I grew up in New Jersey and Count...plays bass-need we say more?

MR: Isn't your corpse paint really used to cover up your butt-ugly faces and horrible acne?

Lord Epidoral: uh...<ahem>...what corpse paint?

Esophagus: What's this...corpse paint you speak of?

MR: I'd like to convert you to Judaism. Will you come to Temple with me? After that we can have some matzo ball soup at Bubby's.



Lord Epidoral: Sure...does your Bubby have a shed by any chance?

Esophagus: No fish meatballs for me, thanks.

MR: Do you eat deviled eggs? Worship them?

Esophagus: No, but Gastritis tosses a mean salad.

MR: One of you guys is like anorexicly skinny and the other is kind of a fat ass.

Lord Epidoral: Why you dirty mutha...

Esophagus: Why I oughta...

MR: The other two are indescribable. Were the original two, you know Twiggy and flubber originally influenced by Laurel and Hardy?

Esophagus: No, we're more like Socrates and Aristotle meets Abbot and Costello

MR: What is your favorite Crayola crayon color? Mine is puce.

Esophagus: Gastritis's favorite is Periwinkle, Count's favorite is Non-Photo blue (it doesn't stain), my favorite is BURNT Sienna, Lord Epidoral's is Grape!

Lord Epidoral: Betcha thought I was gonna say black, huh?

Continued on page...44

LION MUSIC

PRESENTS:

Lars Eric Mattsson

LARS ERIC MATTSSON - ***Obsession***

The new album featuring guitarist Lars Eric Mattsson and the voice of Bjorn Lodin (ex-Baltimore),
classic hard rock at the very best. for all fans of Rainbow, Schenker, Uli Roth, Malmsteen...

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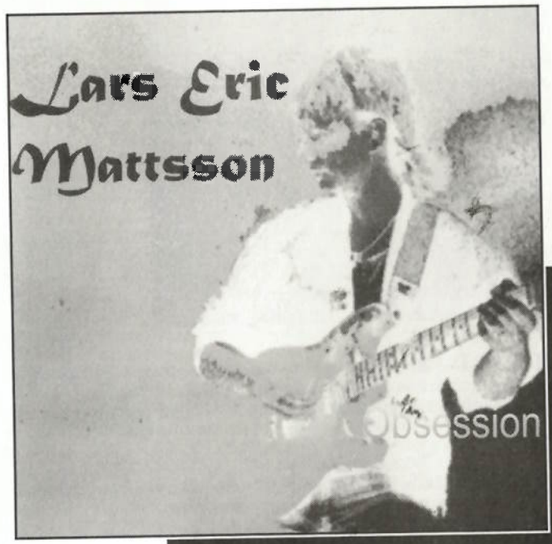
Stratovarius - Fright Night
Mannerheim - S/T
Apocalyptica - Inquisition Symphony
Apocalyptica - Plays metallica by four
Guitar Slingers - S/T
Guitar Slingers - Song and Dance

Tarot - For the Glory of Nothing
Tarot - Stigmata
Tarot - Spell of Iron
Tarot - To Live Forever
Tarot - Follow me into madness
Antidote - Mind Alive

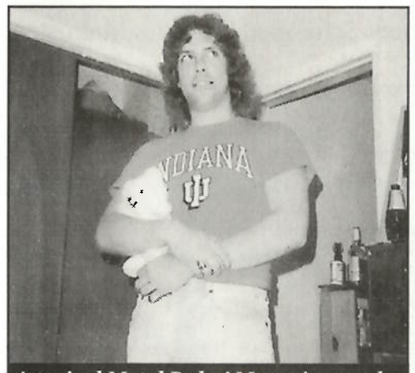


All CD's are 15 US Dollars. Please send cash or money order to: LION MUSIC; Stromsangarna, 22 410 Godby, Aland, FINLAND

Website:
http://www.lionmusic.com
http://www.lionmusic.com

Reviews

When I started to do this zine I never imagined the amount of other zines that are out there. There are a shitload, and every one sent me a zine to review. In this section there is all kinds of zines, so enjoy! Every one of the zines doesn't receive a great review like a lot of the other zine review sections that I see. I'm not going to kiss any ass just to get mutual support. I want support because this zine rules!! One thing is certain though. I respect every one of these zine editors even if I don't like the zine. Doing a zine is a tremendous amount of work. So show you care, people. Send away for a zine or two that look good to you. You'll be happy you did and they'll be thrilled.



A typical Metal Rules! Magazine reader

BURN HAZARD #2

I'm guessing this mostly Punkish zine is being done by some real young kids. A lot of the art is extremely amateurish and the writing is pretty juvenile as well. Not that it's a bad thing because ***Metal Rules! Magazine*** is immature as well at times. Well, actually it's most of the time and I'm an old fart. There are interviews with TORTURE KITTY, LYNYRD'S INNNARDS, REEL BIG FISH and artist Blair Wilson. This zine is total cut and paste, so the pictures inside are almost worthless as they are impossible to see. These kids are funny though. Interviews are original. A fun list of tricks to play on unsuspecting fools at the mall, was a joy to read. They also post a message on a GUTTERMOUTH web site about how GUTTERMOUTH is sexist, homophobic, and outright fascist. Then they printed all the responses they received from moronic fans of the band. Cool, that sounds like a great idea. I'll piss off a bunch of people by E-Mail, print their responses and call it Savage E-Mail! Oh yeah, I already do that. Issue #1 and #2 are available for only $1 each. Well worth it considering it cost $1.01 to mail it to you. What are you waiting for? Help these lads go to college. Contact: **Burn Hazard** 323 Santa Rosa Dr., Old Hickory, TN 37138 USA

CATT BUTT....IN YOUR FACE#1

I'm glad Shoshannah finally got off her ass and finished this. Shoshannah is an incredibly talented and humorous writer as best evidenced in the pages of ***Metal Rules! Magazine***. I got a big kick out of reading her go wild in her very own zine. The zine is not your typical read as there is only about a dozen reviews. Especially amusing in the review section is the concert reviews. The MACHINE HEAD review is over two pages long and I think only one sentence is dedicated to MACHINE HEAD's performance. Even crazier is the five page VENOM review and the concert was cancelled. Huh? Read it and you'll see. Fat ... s in Metal are no oddity and they're discussed in utter hilarity here. The article includes a song parody entitled "Eating After Midnight" which is meant to be sung to the tune "Living After Midnight" of course. The parody features photo's of a lot of the porkers in Metal jamming live. Also an article on the Decline of the Western Civilization movies and a poster of KING DIAMOND joining the SPICE GIRLS as the infamous Satanic Spice adds to the fun. What are you waiting for? This is only $2 and she writes for ***Metal Rules! Magazine***. What else do you need to know? Contact: Shoshannah Flach 2380 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94123 USA

CHAOTIC CRITIQUES #9 (SPRING 1998)

This 30 pager seems a little too smart for it's own good. Although it's extremely well written and devoid of errors, it's just a little too dry for my taste. Maybe I'm just stupid but this is written too smart for me. The format is lifeless and doesn't demand your attention and make you want to read it. **Chaotic Critiques** is for Metalheads much smarter than I. It includes interviews with BRUTAL TRUTH and POSSESSION and has a Industrial/Gothic feature. Also included are zine reviews, a label directory and plenty of reviews but once again the writing style really isn't my cup of tea but for you it may be perfect. It's available for $3 USA and Canada and $4 Rest of World. Contact: **Chaotic Critiques** C/O Tate Bengston P.O. Box 426 Lumby, BC, VOE 2GO, Canada
Web Page:
www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/palms/6031/index.html

DISAGREEMENT #18

Right off the bat, I love the cover! A midget clown banging a gong...pulls at my heartstrings every time. You get a lot for your moola in this 56 page zine. Interviews included are SAN SECOURS, DE KNEPPEL, KRABATHOR, LIFELESS, SUB EFFECT, MENTAL DECAY and PAGAN LORN just to name a few. Also included are well over 150 music reviews. One of the things I especially enjoyed were that they had over 15 live reviews all included with accompanying pictures. Just to round things off you get some poetry and short stories. I'm sure there is some other stuff that I missed, because this is entirely in German except for the poetry and short story for some strange reason. **Disagreement** is available for $3 Europe and $5 Rest of World. Contact: **Disagreement** C/O Thiel Bros 47 Cite Op Soltgen, 3862 Schifflange, Luxemburg. Also of interest for the **Disagreement** camp is they do a radio show on radio ARA (Luxeburg). It's every Sunday from 2:30 to 4:30 P.M. Musical styles covered are Metal, Punk, Hardcore, Industrial, etc. If your interested in **Disagreement** but can't read German then you can go to their online fanzine which is completely written in English. www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/mezzanine/1534 E-Mail:alex.thiel@ci.educ.lu

ELIGOR #8

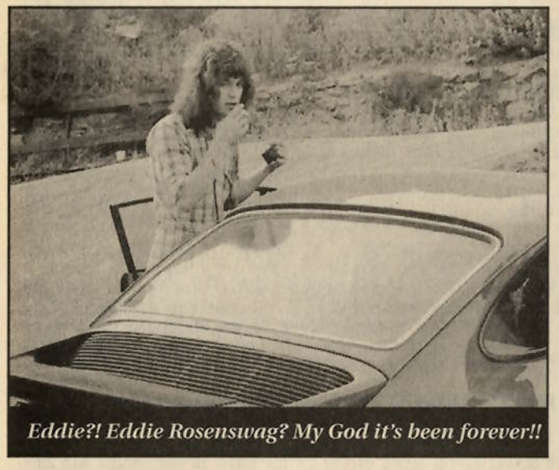
Eligor from Poland looks like the very early incarnation of zines. It's stapled at the side, photo-copied and all cut 'n paste format. Forty-Eight pages in length, it's loaded with really shoddy looking photos. Interviews are with CABAL, PURGATORY ZINE, NOMAD, ERYTROSY (Hey! They were in ***Metal Rules! Magazine*** #2!), NONICON and a whole bunch of other bands with the infamous indecipherable logos. This zine is all over the place. There are reviews on top of ads and all kinds of other calamity. Also it's written in Polish, so I can't read a fucking word of it. I'm quite curious though. If you like sloppy Metal zines written in Polish contact: **Eligor** C/O Sivy, Reja I/I, 41-902 Bytom/Knajfeld, Poland

FLAK YOU NOT #9 AND #10

You have to appreciate a Metal, Punk, Hardcore, Some News, Reviews, No Rumors, Beer, Line Literature-News Letter. This double sided single sheet is full of information. A bunch of reviews, news and playlists are featured and what's best is the friggin' thing is free! I love this guy! Send for one today and make as many copies as you like. He encourages it. Contact: Rossi A. 6515 N.Oliphant, Chicago, IL 60631 USA

LAST JUDGEMENT#5

Yo! Free shit rules! **Last Judgement** is free!! Wheehooo!! Everybody's dancing...dancing... dancing in the streets. **Last Judgement** is a 32 page, old school style stapled at the side classic zine. The writing is good and the reviews are plentiful. Interviews are done with TESTAMENT, DISARRAY, NOIZOME GROOVE, LILITU, FORSAKEN, AURORA BOREALIS, SICKNESS, WHITE KNUCKLE TRIP and ORDAINED. There are articles on Pure, Real Heavy Metal and another asks "Is Death Metal dead?" Well, considering about 90% of what I receive is Death Metal, I could say without a doubt it's not! Also included is an article about the over-hyped STUCK MOJO. Do they deserve a whole page? Hell no! All reviews are sincere and knowledgeable and they list all the song titles for you. I especially enjoy the comment on not being a real Metalhead unless you own FORBIDDEN's first two albums. My man is right. FORBIDDEN was one of the most overlooked Metal bands of all time. Maybe Editor Shane Tolle should have dedicated a page to them instead of STUCK MOJO. All in all a great read. What are you waiting for lazy ass? Wake up and send Shane a letter. Be nice and send him $1 or some stamps too. Contact: Last Judgement C/O Shane Tolle 1118 N. Summit, Ark City, KS 67005 USA Phone # 316-442-5967


Eddie?! Eddie Rosenswag? My God it's been forever!!

METAL NIGHTMARE #1

For some of you already familiar with ***Carcharoth Zine*** you may know of Editor's Tom Wren's writings. Tom published 8 issues in 2 and half years and decided to start over. He is sick of the bands that are just bent on being heavy. In this magazine Tom only gives coverage to bands that are Metal to the very core of their being. You get bands that live and breathe Metal, bands that whether through their image, their music or overall attitude are bands that keep the glory days and old spirit alive. Also a plethora of interviews with DIABOLI, OCTOBER 31, LORD BELIAL, MORBID ANGEL (Fuck it all!!), DAWN, GUILLOTINE, OMEN, NASTY SAVAGE, and the mighty, mighty POSSESSED among others. Plus almost 100 music reviews to round things out. This is a top notch Metal mag for anybody. The only thing that needs some work are the photos. Some of them were so bad that they weren't even worth using. Buy a new scanner dude! As a complete package this is a righteously packed 80 pager-well-worth your $3 USA or $5 Rest of World. Contact: Metal Nightmare C/O Tom Wren P.O. Box 420195 San Diego, CA 92142 USA
E-Mail: deadmetal@aol.com

MORTAL COIL #7

This isn't really a zine but kind of like an oversized CD booklet. It has a little bit about each band that is featured on the Mortal Coil Records "Eat the Evidence: Vol.2" CD. Besides listing the bands there are interviews with INSATANITY, LIVIDITY, and Artist "JB" from Italy who did the art for the CD cover. A nice intro to the bands featured on this CD. It comes free with that Comp but I think if you wrote and asked nice you might be able to pick it up. For information about this zine or any bands on this label contact: Mortal Coil Records C/O Jill Girardi P.O. Box 308 Deer Park, NY 11729 USA

NOTHINGHEAD PRODUCTIONS #1

This is the first issue of a zine that has previously been on the web. It will continue on the web and now you have something to hold in your hands besides your dick. Inside you get interviews with MEGADETH, SKINLAB, DEFTONES and LIFE OF AGONY. This is done by a 16 year old kid and you can feel his enthusiasm throughout the issue. He started the magazine to interview his two favorite bands which are SKINLAB and MACHINE HEAD. He reached that goal but he still continues. The interviews are short but well done and in most cases done in person. I laughed out loud when during the LIFE OF AGONY interview Dave Mustaine walks in and out. The interviewer then writes that *"Mustaine sees me and decides he doesn't want to be interviewed by some small time zine, so he leaves without saying a word."* You als get an article about TROMA and 29 reviews. Not bad for only being 14 pages! The only negative things in this zine are the lack of interviews with underground bands. There are none. Also there is an incredible amount of spelling mistakes. For example in the MEGADETH introduction alone I counted three mistakes. Example: "Rust in Piece" and "Cryptics Wrghtings". Later on in the LIFE OF AGONY interview you meet a guy named Kieth and another guy named Dave Musitaine. Mistakes will always slip by. They have in ***Metal Rules! Magazine*** plenty of times but "C'mon" somebodys not paying enough attention. Wake up dude!! If Dave "Mustaine" sees how badly his article was raped he's going to be pissed! Anyway this magazine is free and it has enough good qualities to send for one. Send the kid a stamp to be nice. Contact: **Nothinghead Publications** P.O. Box 1914 Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-0122 Web Site: www.dutkins.com/nothinghead
E-Mail: rafiarom@aol.com

PORTRAIT OF DEFIANCE #5

First of all I wonder sometimes how these zine Editors pull this off. This zine is 40 pages on thick paper stock and it only costs $2.00. I checked the amount of postage that it cost to mail me and it was creeping toward $3.00 (It came with a bunch of flyers.) Even though this zine is dated it's stillworth $2.00. The writing is assinine and hilarious which are two great qualities to have for a good read. There are about 100 music reviews in here. Although I don't agree with a lot of the reviews in here I still find them pretty damn funny. There are interviews with MORTIIS (Man, that guy really is a tool!), NUM SKULL, MORGOTH, EMPEROR, ANTI CLASS, DESPAIR and the ever fun loving BILL ZEBUB of ***Grimoire of Exalted Deeds*** fame. Also tons (And I mean tons!) of homophobic comments all throughout the issue. It's so stupid that it makes you laugh. I'm still not sure how this homophobic attitude was started in the Metal community but it's truly sad. As I told the Editor of another zine that I correspond with, as long as they don't have me bent against a sink trying to bang me in the ass, it's alright with me. You'll be surprised how many gay people you talk to every day. Just look at Rob Halford or Freddie Mercury. They are among us (especially if you live in San Francisco) and will always be. Get used to it. I especially find it amusing when people say "Gay this", and "Gay that." Or else they make a comment like Jack Botos (Editor of **Portrait of Defiance**). In his intro he says *"Suck my humongous Italian cock, poser faggots!"* Pardon me but if you want these faggots sucking your cock wouldn't that make you gay? Jack, what are you feeling? Make up your mind. Anyway, well worth $2.00 USA and $3.00 for rest of the world. It's good for the laughs alone. Especially recommended reading in this issue is the MORTIIS interview. Jack is a funny mixed up dude. Contact: **Portrait of Defiance** C/O Jack Botos 1221 N. Johnson St., South Bend, IN 466628 USA Phone#(219)287-0480

RETIC ZINE #2

This 24 page zine is old as shit but I received it for review, so reviewed it gets. **Retic** is printed on newsprint and because of it's age it has already started to yellow. Interviews featured are SUFFOCATION, DOMINION, SEVERED, BROKEN HOPE, SARCOPHAGUS AND HARUSPEX. The interviews are a little on the short side but being this is only the second issue I can understand. My first issue had interviews that were sort of on the short side. The reason for this is because in the beginning with interviews you're still trying to put your feelers out as to how long they should be. The art work in here is fair. All the interviews in here are stretched out, when they could have easily fit on one page. Then the reviews are written in that microscopic print. If they went the same font size throughout the issue, it would have looked way better. The reviews are well done and their is no ass kissing in sight. If you don't mind that that this is dated before you had your first tooth you might want to send $2.00. Contact: **Retic** P.O. Box 9117 N. St. Paul, MN 55109 USA

RETIC ZINE #3

Yeah! This is old as shit too! They went to docu-tech style paper on this issue. That would be the same machine used on the first three issue of the illustrious *Metal Rules! Magazine*. The format is still pretty lousy though. Interviews are stretched to more pages than necessary and the reviews aren't given enough space. Interviews in this issue are with ABSCESS, HYPOCRISY, BRUTAL TRUTH, NAPALM DEATH, SCEPTER and ORDER FROM CHAOS. It's still enjoyable and the reviews and interviews are decent to read. Once again no ass kissin' is present. The writing is above adequate but the format takes away from that. This zine had made it up to issue #5 but one hasn't been printed in over 2 years. I would have liked to see what this zine would have looked like at issue #4 and #5 but unfortunately they're sold out. #6 is in the works. In the meantime you can pick this issue up for $2.00. (See above for Contact Address)

Alyssa Milano...aw hell yeah!!
(is it wrong that I get "wood" when I look at this picture)

RIVERSIDE ART SCENE #'S 18 AND 19

There was a day long ago when Art was something truly special. Then one day somebody deemed some trash, Modern Art. Then we had Pop Art and so on and so on....Now any crap that people feel like producing can be considered Art. Not to me though. **Riverside Art Scene** is not Art. It's shit. You know, poopy, ca-ca, doodie, BM, stinkie etc. etc. etc. **Riverside Art Scene** is a badly photo-copied, collage style cut and paste zine. Inside there is crappy Art, 100's of jokes (none of which are funny), various articles and newspaper clippings with words added and pictures from the articles that they doctor. Remember when you were 6 and drew a moustache on the lady in the paper? Well, that's akin to what they do. This zine is only a $1 but if you buy it I'm coming to your house and kickin' you in your taint!!! (Thanks Jeremy for that word.) Contact: Riverside Art Scene P.O. Box 638 Kenmore, NY 14217 USA
E-Mail:MrSkiMask@aol.com

SLOTH #4

This 64 page newsprint zine is another one of those zines that are real hard to put down. At first I thought this cocky 19 year old punk that writes this is an asshole. Well, he may be but he's funny!! The zine has a great layout and it's loaded with stuff to read and the photos are clear as hell. Interviews are with PHLEBOTOMIZED, DARKSEED, GARDEN OF SHADOWS, FUELED, THE CROWN, OBSCENITY, BILL ZEBUB (Always fun!), MY DYING BRIDE, DECEASED, THEATRE OF TRAGEDY, THE GREAT KAT (Classic!) and more. Also inside a nice, fat list of labels and zines. Bonus fun with a comic entitled "Goth Kids Suck" and a hilarious article about a little feud between Phil (The Editor) and Dwell Records. Good stuff! In addition over 200 music reviews are also included. Take $3 out of your wallet ($5 if your a fuzzy foreigner) and send it to Phil! Contact: **Sloth Magazine** 3509 Sterling Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304 USA
Phone: (703)823-9463 E-Mail:philviv@huskynet.com
Web: www.huskynet.com/sloth/sloth.htm

SOCIOPATHIC DESPAIR#1

96 Pages! Holy crap! That's a lot of words to read. Although this is a bit dated it was still a fine read. I caught myself laughing quite a few times in here. I like the "I'm too Sexy for My Goat" on the cover along with "Left Said Head" and Billy Goat Gruff comments. There are a bunch of interviews as well. For example: CROM, ACHERON, HEMDALE, CLEANSER, NEGLECT and many others. I found the interviews to be informative and not a bit stale. Some of his subjects were quite witty. One thing that really stands out to me is the amount of Hardcore bands. Most zines don't cover this particular genre to this large of an extent. The zine was done without a computer. I found this commendable because it looks great although some more graphics couldn't have hurt. A couple of things I didn't like was the lame P.J. Scoggins art and the inclusion of parts of the Unibomber manifesto. Not only was that Manifesto the most boring, retarded thing I've ever seen (I read it when it was in the paper.) but who the hell needs to give this psychopath any more recognition and attention than he's already getting. Innocent people were killed. That sucks! The inclusion of this is inappropriate and pointless. Other than that, you get a ton of reviews and so much else that you would be insane as the Unibomber not to buy this. It's $3 USA and $4 Rest of World. There is a new issue out as well. See Metal Rules #5 for review of that issue. Check this out! Contact: **Sociopathic Despair** P.O. Box 10025 B.Green, KY 42102 USA E-Mail: SocioD@hotmail.com
Web Site: www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/backstage/7887/

STRIKE MAGAZINE #5

Goddammit! I'm going to have to go to Night School to study all kinds of foreign languages. Then maybe I could read these awesome looking magazines when they came in. Strike is one hell of a professional looking magazine. It's 48 glossy pages, and includes a color cover and full color photos throughout the magazine. Not to mention full color photos of OZZY, ELDRITCH, SAVATAGE, RAVEN and MORGANA LEFAY! There are interviews with ROYAL HUNT, THEATRE OF TRAGEDY, STRATOVARIUS, BLITZKRIEG, TEMPEST, PORTRAIT, HOLY SOLDIER and SAVAGE. You also get a large news section, a detailed live review section complete with photos from the show and more CD/Demo reviews than I care to count. Plus a whole lot more! Check it out! Send $5 Cash Only to: **Strike Magazine** Caixa Postal 15094-Cambuci, CepO1599-970 S. Paulo/SP Brazil • Phone/Fax(011)0055.11.6914.6052

TOTAL CARNAGE #1, #2, #3 AND #4

Total Carnage is a free newsletter that grows larger with each consecutive issue. Issue #1 is 4 pages and #4 is 10 pages. It's written entirely in Japanese characters except for the name of the groups and zine titles but so what. It's free! You can always look at the photos right? The Editor Toshiro Ebara is a totally cool guy that sent me a ton of cool Japanese Metal tapes for my listening pleasure as well as a bunch of contacts. Take a look! Be nice and send a buck or two for Postage. It's Japan for Christsakes! Contact: **Total Carnage** C/O Toshiro Ebara 207 Takara-Cho, Ohta-City, Gunma-pref, 373-0042 Japan
E-Mail: t-ebara@ohtanet.or.jp

UNDERGROUND ZINE SCENE #9

Only 24 pages in length but if you want zine reviews, no other magazine even comes close. I'm not about to count them all but a shitload would be an appropriate guess. Also included are many music reviews and interviews with NIGHT IN GALES, GARDEN OF SHADOWS and guitarist Pino Mattioli round this out. The zine features the simplest of layouts but if you love reviews and lots of them contact John immediately!! Contact: **Underground Zine Scene** 316 E. Main St., Sebewaing, MI 48759 USA
E-Mail:zscene@juno.com

UNRESTRAINED #5

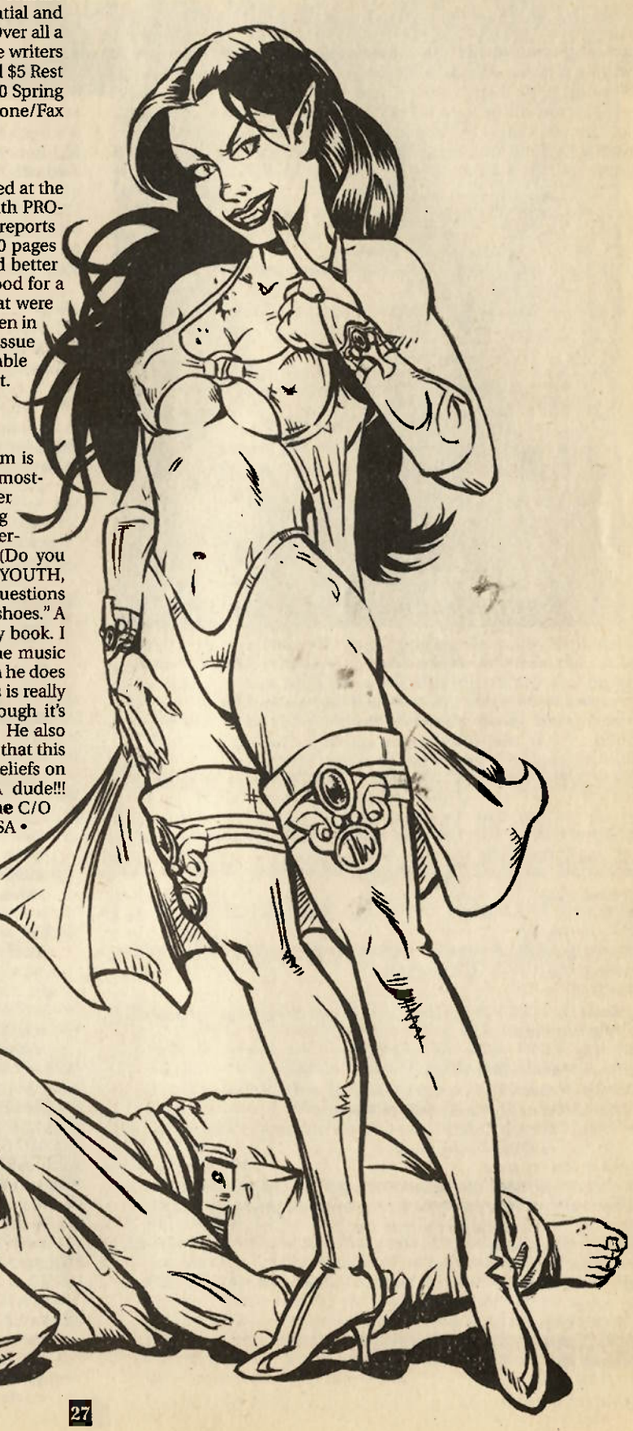
Real professional magazine from Canada! It seems like real writers are employed at this establishment. All interviews are written in story style instead of the usual Q&A. This style is tuff to do although **Unrestrained** pulls it off somewhat successfully. I say only somewhat because this is a case where that style causes the writing to seem stale and lifeless. Interviews are done with SLAYER, KATATONIA, CRYPTOSY, SUFFOCATION, SOULFLY, INCANTATION, PUNGENT STENCH, CANNIBAL CORPSE, SOLUS, FALKEN BACH, DAWN, PITCHSHIFTER, COVENANT, NILE, DIO, NO COMPOS MANTIS, SHEAVY and OCEAN MACHINE. You can see that there is no shortage of interviews but they seem as if they should be in a newspaper not a fun-loving Metal rag. There are many reviews that are done well and for the most part seem accurate at least in my opinion, so this is a bonus. One very distracting thing in the review section is that there is art in the middle of each review page that the reviews run over. For the unlucky bands that are featured in those spots they are shit out of luck. People will most likely skip reading the reviews there in wanting to keep their eyesight somewhat normal. Another good feature though is the zine review page. A lot of even the most influential and best selling zines are afraid to criticize. Not **Unrestrained**! Over all a decent mag that could be made better by maybe injecting the writers with some of Pauly Shore's blood! Cost is $3 USA/Canada and $5 Rest of World. Contact: **Unrestrained** ATTN: Adam Wasylyk 3150 Spring Creek Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5N-4S2 Phone/Fax (905)824-7485 • E-Mail:macabre@interlog.com

VICTIM IN PAIN #2

Victim in Pain is an old school style stapled and scotch taped at the side Metal and Hardcore magazine. It features interviews with PRO-PAIN, RAYZOR, 187 and HARD RESISTANCE. there are also reports on THE GATHERING and DISCIPLINE. **Victim in Pain** is 50 pages in length and total cut and paste style. With a computer and better layout this would have been about 32 pages. Looks pretty good for a zine that was done on a typewriter and with dark photos that were photocopied. I'd like to tell you about the writing but it's written in Belgiumese or something. From what I understand the next issue will be in English. I'll be looking out for it as you should. Available Worldwide for $6! Contact: **Victim in Pain** C/O Priem Filip, St. Amandstraat 12, 8760 Meulebeke, Belgium

X=CENTRIC ZINE #2

This self proclaimed heaviest magazine in all of Christendom is packed to the gills with great reading. It has over 50 pages of mostly text. **X=Cenric Zine** is only the 3rd Christian Zine I've ever seen and by far the best. The other two I saw were mostly dog shit. This zine features mostly Christian bands and has interviews with EXTOL, DEVOUT, PUNKTURE, PEACEMAKER (Do you think this is a Christian band?), MANGLED, DIRECTED YOUTH, CAUSTIC FUNERAL and many others. While some of the questions posed are quite good others are predictably very "goody-two shoes." A bunch of reviews which give mostly accurate reviews (In my book. I mean the Torah by my book. Just kidding!). You can hear the music with your mind by his vivid descriptions. Surprisingly enough he does give some pretty brutal reviews to bands that deserve it. This is really not a bad zine! I also like what he says in his intro. It says although it's a Christian Zine, he's not on a crusade to rescue the world. He also states he's Christian and he likes Hard and Heavy Music and that this Zine is his way of expressing it. He's not trying to force his beliefs on anybody that doesn't agree with him. Alright!! Fuckin-A dude!!! (Ooops!!! Sorry. I'm a potty mouth.) Contact: **X=Centric Zine** C/O Joe Wheeler 269 Castle Keep Ct., Newport News, VA 23608 USA • E-Mail: Wwhee52416@aol.com Phone:(757)886-0665



MICHAEL SWEET
INTERVIEW

I know some of you are gasping for air and others are excited that I did this interview. I don't give a fuck! (sorry Mike) STRYPER rules!! So does his new CD! Go buy it! This was the most relaxed and pleasant interview I've ever done. This man is 100% genuine and didn't give me a run around on any questions! Read on! Of course with all these "Uhhh..."s you can feel we are not stupid just having a normal conversation. This comes to you verbatim! ENJOY!!

(Dial tone...Dialing...Ringing)

Metal Rules: May, I speak to Mike Please...yeah, this is Jeff from ***Metal Rules! Magazine.***

(Pause)

Michael: Hello
MR: Mike!
Michael: Hey Jeff
MR: How's it going?
Michael: How're you doing buddy?
MR: Good!
Michael: So, I think she (Mike's wife) ***is just going to go up and hang up the phone***
MR: Okay
Michael: Then we'll be all set
MR:I should have uh...do you go by Mike or Michael now?
Michael:Mike or Michael, it doesn't matter
MR: I said Mike and I think your wife was like uhh...(*laughs)* Do you think I said the wrong thing?
Michael: What's that?
MR: Like I said Mike and maybe I should have said Michael.
Michael: Oh no, that's alright. You can call me anything you'd like.
MR: Okay...how about if I call you Sam?
Michael: That's cool.
MR: Okay.
Michael: I like that!
MR: Okay.
Michael: A lot.
MR: You gonna change it? Sam Sweet?
Michael: Yes.
MR: That's awesome.
Michael: I like that.
MR: I bet.
Michael: How about sour?
MR: Sour Sweet?
Michael: I like that even better!
MR: That'll go good with your Chinese food.
Michael: No, I think sweet and sour.
MR: Did you just have some?
Michael: Huh?
MR: Did you just have some?

(Both laugh)

Michael: No.
MR: I know you like Chinese food. At least you ate a lot of Chinese food during that guy's visit from your website.
Michael: *(laughs)* ***I'm just finishing up this mail here. Let's see here.***
MR: I know what it's like, I get a lot of mail too.
Michael: And...there we go. Alright. It's actually just sending Email. There we go.
MR: Why is that so much more fun than regular mail? Isn't it?
Michael: You know it is so much more fun because it's instantaneous, ya know.
MR: Yeah.
Michael: You just type it out and boom it's done. You don't have to go to the Post Office and uh, you know.
MR: Yeah, it's so quick too. I just wrote to uh...I just got an Email tonight from a guy in Malaysia
Michael: Yeah.
MR: And it's like ho, ho, ho your magazine is funny.(In my best Malaysian accent.-Jeff) It just seems weird like, you know, this guy in Malaysia is reading it and loving it. You know it's just pretty cool.
Michael: It's just unbelievable man.
MR: Reaching the far off lands...are you ready to rombo?
Michael: I am ready man.
MR: First of all I gotta apologize if I uh...use any like salty language by accident. I'm trying not to.
Michael: Okay
MR: I might have done it last night and didn't even realize it. (**Editor's note:** Jeff spoke with Michael the night before the inter view...they were playing silly Email games) I'm not trying to be offensive. I gotta learn to not put that in my vocabulary when I'm talking, you know-sometimes.
Michael: Okay
MR: I'm sure you've come in contact with it before. Umm...okay. Let's start from the beginning here. Umm...how do you feel about for warding mail? (**Editor's note:** Jeff is trying to make a funny, a futile attempt at a joke from the night before)
Michael: How do I feel about forwarding mail...as in?
MR: No, I'm just kidding from last night. It was just a joke. (**Editor's note:** I told you he was trying to make a joke!)
Michael: Okay.
MR: Trying to fool around.
Michael: I got ya. I gotcha uhh...now I feel great.
MR: Now that you know how to do it.
Michael: Now I feel great man.
MR: Cool.
Michael: Last night, though, I uhh...before last night I wasn't thrilled with the idea.
MR: Yeah it's a new concept. Alright let's start from the real beginning now. (thank God-Jeremy)
Michael: Alright.
MR: What was it like, like when you like first started with STRYPER...in the very beginning?
Michael: Well, in the very beginning going back, uhh...it was...it was an exciting feeling in a new way. You know I still get excited to this day and pumped and thrilled up and you know to go and do this or do that and of course releasing Truth-I was real excited. But, there is nothing that can compare to the excitement that I felt back in the early days you know, uhh...when STRYPER formed and we did our first album and we started getting interest and playing clubs and selling them out and just uhh...seeing this just go up, up, up...you know. I mean there's just no words can describe how it felt-it was unbelievable, and you know we were touring the world and just going places we'd only dreamed of and meeting new people and, uhh...it was just absolutely incredible.
MR: Uh huh.
Michael: At the early age of twenty and twenty one. You know so...it was just...it's hard to describe.
MR: Uhhh
Michael: You've gotta experience it man.
MR: I'll try *(laugh)* Hopefully the magazine will get huge and I can do it too.
Michael: It's amazing. It really is. It's an amazing feeling and uhh...all the more so, I mean the fact that we were singing about God, you know. It was like it was just blowing us away, uhh...that we were as accepted as we were and uhh...you know, uhh...getting air play and MTV and just doing things that you just wouldn't imagine a Christian band could do...and it was happening-so it was amazing.
MR: Are you the first Christian Metal band or was there others before you? I mean, uhh...
Michael: I uhh... (Man, we do sound stoopid! -Jeff)
MR: Go ahead
Michael: I think that we were the first as far as that style of metal-of true Hard Rockin' Metal. There were some other bands that were out before us, uhh...like Larry Norman was rockin' uhh...there was a band called RESBAND, I don't know if you're familiar with them at all.
MR: No.
Michael: They were more Classic Rock sounding and Blues-ish and we came along and were just (makes 80's Metal Riff noise) you know, real heavy. So I think we were probably the first Christian Hard Heavy band. Then a bunch of other kind of groups followed and started coming out, uhh...groups like BLOODGOOD, BARREN CROSS, WHITE CROSS and GUARDIAN and you know...on and on and on...
MR: There's still a pretty big scene still today, I think.
Michael: What's that?
MR: I got a zine not that long ago that was uhh...all Christian Metal.
Michael: Yeah?
MR: It was pretty cool. It was called Executioner or Exo-something.
Michael: Yeah, there's a ton, I mean an absolute ton of uhh... Christian Metal bands.
MR: Yeah there's a real lot and a lot of Death Metal bands!
Michael: Oh yeah!
MR: Which I found kind of odd...it just seemed strange.
Michael: A lot of a lot of that kind of stuff. I mean it's just...it's...it's hard to keep up with. I mean, I can't-I won't even try, you know...umm, I couldn't even tell you 90% of the groups out there right now you would mention them to me and I would say who's that. (Huh?-Jeremy) (He's talking about the Christian bands, dumbass! -Jeff)
MR: I know, like when I saw it I didn't even know what it was. I then got halfway into it and suddenly it dawned on me-there's something different about it and that's when I realized that it was a Christian zine. I didn't even realize it when first I started reading it. Until I started looking at it and you know you see little signs that it's different...you know what I mean and I go...oh wait a minute. (Thanks for clearing that up Jeff.-Jeremy)
Michael: Right, well some of them not to be mean or anything but some of the groups that I heard, uhh...they say they're Christian but gosh, uhh...lyrically I uhh...just everything it doesn't really come off that way to me. But, uhh...not like they're singing about sex and drugs or anything like that, but I don't know...umm who knows. I guess I can't judge anyone right.
MR: Yeah, well, there's uhh...certain bands that got you into Metal. Like certain Metal bands you heard and you go wow that sounds cool, I'd like to do that.
Michael: Oh definitely! When I was uhh...early teens thirteen, four teen years old I was going to see groups like Judas Priest at the Long Beach Arena uhh...I was real into Priest.
MR: Me too.
Michael: Not to the point where I was bowing down to worship them or anything but I was just really into that sound and Rob Halford and the guitars you could probably hear that on certain Stryper songs.
MR: *(Interruptingly)* Like the early stuff; Yellow and Black Attack-like on there.
Michael: Yeah, there was a song on Soldiers called "Makes Me Want To Sing". It starts *(sings the riff)* ***you know right out of the uhh... "Running Wild" by Priest, I don't know if you remember that song.***
MR: Oh yeah, I'm a huge Priest fan so uhh...
Michael: Well that time is the same riff...you know and I was a big PRIEST fan and uhh...VAN HALEN when they came out just blew me away really influenced me uhh...guitar and song writing wise uhh, you know and showmanship wise too just the fact we kind of moved into...we went from the KISS Era and big hair and the production and the lights, the bombs and the fire and all that stuff...into VAN HALEN which was just let the music do the talking and high energy you know. And uhh...was really impressed with that.
(Editor's Note: Jeff and Mr. Sweet do not believe in the English langauge. All the grammar books in the world couldn't help them)
MR: Yeah, I can totally relate cause I'm coming I'm about the same age as you are, I guess. I'm 31 you're around that age, right?
Michael: I'm 35
MR: Well, we're pretty close.
Michael: I'm a little older yeah...yeah we're real close.
MR: But, uhh...that's the stuff I grew up on like old VAN HALEN and JUDAS PRIEST and IRON MAIDEN-stuff like that I love that stuff.
Michael: Exactly and I do too and uhh...you know to be honest I don't listen to as much these days-I don't listen to music as much these days.
MR: Right
Michael: Uhh, I don't know if it's cause I'm older or if it's caused I'm a dad or if it's because I'm a little burnt out, on listening to music. I still enjoy and love music but back when I was a kid uhh...you know I mean that's all I did was listen to music. Always in my car, cranking it at home-I mean just music, music, music.
MR: That's the way I am now *(laughs)* It gets worse every year too. Just when I think I'll out grow it. I mean, I like everything, I'm like a total spectrum of Metal and that's what my magazine is. It's like I have anything from like POISON to STRYPER to NAPALM DEATH. I mean I just love Metal. I just love music you know so it's like...

"They were more Classic Rock sounding and blues-ish and we came along and were just (makes 80's Metal Riff noise) you know, real heavy"

Michael: Yeah man, I do too. I love all kinds of music there's some music that I don't swallow too well and uhh I'm not a big fan of most, but most music I really enjoy. You know I listen to metal, I listen to rock, I listen to Blues, I listen to Jazz, I listen to Classical on occasion. You know I enjoy...if it's good stuff, it's good so I enjoy a little bit of everything.
MR: There's a little bit in each area. Some of it's garbage and some of it's good.
Michael: Definitely.
MR: Going back to Rob Halford. How did you feel about him coming out...of the closet? (I thought this question might irritate him but no, not a bit! -Jeff)
Michael: Oh gosh you know. The whole thing is kind of... When any one comes out of the closet or I find out somebody is gay whether it be homosexual, lesbian, or whatever, uhh I am not gonna stand up and say yea cool, equal rights, go for it you know type thing because of what I am as a person and what my beliefs are and what the Bible says about that. So you know I love the people, I just don't love the things they are doing. But I have no problem with the person.
MR: Do you know him?

Michael: I actually do. I've met him quite a few times. And he actually...I have videotape of him coming up on stage with us and doing "Breaking the Law".

MR: He is just the greatest...

Michael: We played "Breakin the Law" musically and he sang it.

MR: That's awesome!

Michael: Yeah!

MR: That must have been...for you cause you said that was a big influence...it must have been real exciting.

Michael: It was awesome. It was incredible you know.

MR: Like...oh my God...(What am I, a valley girl? -Jeff)

Michael: We were in Canada and it rocked. I have it on video and it just absolutely rocks man.

MR: You want to dub that for me?

Michael: What?

MR: You want to dub that for me?

Michael: Hey sure. I think he was a little surprised too because it really rocked. I mean, it was really heavy man. It was tight and it was loud and I think he was really surprised.

MR: That's great!

Michael: He was gettin' into it. Just belting it out man. It was a lot of fun. He's a cool guy but as far as his lifestyle-I don't approve uhh...you know uhh...support that or encourage that at all.

MR: But didn't you know already? I mean, it wasn't a surprise to you...was it?

Michael: Not really, no

MR: Because I always thought that.

Michael: Reason being that I met him back in 1978

MR: Wow!

Michael: Actually, right at the time they did Unleashed in the East.

MR: Okay.

Michael: What was that...'78, '79...somewhere in there and I went to see them at Long Beach Arena in my area. We went back, fol lowed their limo to their hotel cause we wanted to meet the guys. So, we go knocking on the door-we found their hotel room. Rob answered the door and we were talking to him and I got this sense...I want to choose my words...

(Gee, I can think of a word or TWO for him! -Jeremy)

MR: That he thought you were kind of cute

Michael: I just kind of got this sense that he was that way.

MR: Yeah

Michael: You know what I mean, just this kind of...just his mannerisms and the he was looking and acting. You know I just kind of got this sense but, I didn't know for sure.

MR: He didn't grab your butt or anything, huh?

Michael: No, no

MR: Just checking

Michael: But, he was looking like he wanted to.

(Now that was funny!! -Jeff)

MR: Okay, I can imagine

Michael: You know what I'm saying?

MR: Well, you look at the old videos. Did you ever get that collection of videos that he has?

Michael: No.

MR: They have a collection of all the videos they did for the last 20 or so years

Michael: Yeah!

MR: Some of them he just looks like. I mean he almost looks like a girl in some of the things he was doing and for years they've talked about it. I got an old Metal Shop-do you remember that show?

Michael: Uhh...no.

MR: I think it was just in this area but, they were talking about it back then. I mean it must have been 15 years ago.

Michael: Yeah.

MR: So...

Michael: But, he was the nicest guy in the world and is super nice. I got this feeling back then that, that could be the case and it wound up being the case. But, again I have nothing against him as a person...I mean I love him a sa person-he's a great guy, ya know. I'm supposed to love him as a person but, as far as his lifestyle I don't love and I don't support it at all.

MR: Okay.

Michael: I probably may get a lot of hate mail, you know saying some thing like that. That's kind of where I'm at.

"Rob answered the door and we were talking to him and I got this sense..."

MR: I can understand. I wanted to know your view point. There's another thing I'm wondering about did you ever hear of Black Metal?

Michael: Black Metal? As in have I ever heard of Black Metal?

MR: Yes, Are you familiar with what it is and what the lyrics are about and stuff?

Michael: Vaguely

MR: I was just wondering how you feel about that? (I'll bet he loves it. Probably owns some Burzum and Dark Throne-Jeremy)

Michael: Are you speaking about, when you say Black Metal, you mean like real satanic metal?

MR: Yeah, well like, Satanic Metal, I mean it's a big hatred of Christianity-basically what it is.

Michael: Well, they have the right to stand up for what they think is right and stand against what they think is a joke or is wrong. All I can say to stuff like that is someday we'll find out who's right and who's wrong, you know. It's either gonna be their Bible or my Bible. I believe that my Bible and what I believe and what the Bible says is going to wind up being the victor and be on top. You know, they can do what they want to do and hey that's okay, because we'll all find out someday, you know.

MR: Yeah sometimes you wonder where some peoples beliefs come from, you know.

Michael: Yeah I know. It's sad because a lot, not all, some know what they're messing with. I think some of those guys don't even truly know what they're messing with they look at it as Satan's cool, he's our God, we're gonna party with him in Hell someday. It's gonna be a big party, fun, fun, fun. He's gives us power, he's putting us on top of the charts right now...whatever and they don't realize what they're messing with and Satan's not a good guy. The Bible tells you exactly what he is and you either believe that or you don't. You know.

MR: It's a shame because some of their music is really good too

Michael: Oh I know. I know absolutely, a lot of those bands' music is really good...it's just the whole vibe, attitude and message and all that stuff

MR: Okay to get back to, we're going back and forth here.

Michael: Okay.

MR: How did you come up with the idea for the yellow suits and did you have any ideas for other patterns or that was just something you came up with?

Michael: We had, going way back before STRYPER, we had a group going called ROCK'S REGIME and we had this idea of making everything black and yellow stripes-on our clothes and on our guitars, amps and just kind of thinking of ways to be different-things that we could do to be catchy, gimmicky. We chose yellow and black because of the warning signs all over California. They are everywhere. They are used as a warning for falling rocks, deer, you know-children or school crossing. We just liked the idea that they were warning colors-warning the world that STRYPER was coming.

MR: I never knew what that was for.

Michael: Yeah, that's why we chose yellow and black-to warn the world that we were coming. The stripes in the beginning didn't mean anything, they just looked cool. We liked the look of it and when people walked into the clubs they were like, whoa what's that? They were real eye catching and then we officially became STRYPER and found the scripture Isiah 53:5, which if you look it up it says; "by his stripes we are healed" and that ties in at this point the stripes that STRYPER had. That's what the stripes eventually stood for. For the stripes that Christ took before he was nailed to the cross...not a lot of people know that as well.

MR: No, I never, I was like...you know what though, it was a really good idea because to this day people remember you cause of that.

Michael: Yeah, it's kind of like we were compared sometimes to the whole KISS thing, you know. They had their gimmick of each guy being a different character, different make-up, different outfits, that's their thing and we had the yellow and black thing.

MR: You'd be surprised, I mean uhh...I manage a comic book store for a living and I have a lot of Metal customers-which is really cool but, they come in and I was real excited about talking to you, ya know I'm a huge fan of yours, and I was talking about it to every one. You've got 18 and 19 year old kids that were like however old they were when you were around and they all know. They sing "To Hell With The Devil", I mean nobody has forgotten that and it's really cool.

Michael: A lot of people that I talk to I say yeah I was in a band called STRYPER and they say, oh yeah that yellow and black group

MR: Yeah, they know they say, the guys with the stripes, the bumble bee's. Yeah it's so funny. It's surprising they you know who they are, even people that weren't into Metal-everybody remembers from when you were on MTV constantly-it's great

(Phone difficulty)

Did you ever think that it was getting to be ridiculous?

Michael: You mean as far as the STRYPER thing or playing music?

MR: No, not the music no-the outfits.

Michael: Yeah, uhh...I guess whenever you're doing something like that in a band you're gonna think back and say oh my gosh should we have been doing this? But, not to often we enjoyed dressing up in the yellow and black outfits and the amps, the drums, the stage, ya know all in yellow and black. It was actually pretty cool to walk out on the "To Hell With The Devil" and "In God We Trust" to walk into the arena and look out to see the amps three cabinets high twelve across, a drum riser eight feet tall with two kits on it all in yellow and black with banners-the PA system was yellow and black everything. I mean, it was pretty awesome when the people walked in their mouths would fall to the floor. It never got to the point where we said gosh should we be doing this or is it corny. Maybe in the beginning but, as time went on definitely not.

MR: Right. At the very end, the last album you did you didn't use them anymore

Michael: We figured maybe this yellow and black thing has been used too much. We wound up sticking with some stripes on the guitars, drums and clothes but, with different colors. I went with a purple and black, Robert went with a turquoise and black, Tim had a brown and black and a gold and black and then Oz had a silver and black thing going. We had that for a tour and a record. I don't know if we should've done that. I think a lot of people were sort of let down that we did that. I think a lot of people were sort of let down that we did that. They expected us to keep the yellow and black but, then again the same thing happened when Kiss when they took their make-up off. A lot of people were let down.

MR: Who's idea was it to throw the Bibles?

Michael: I can't recall who actually said lets throw Bibles. I think it was a friend of ours by the name of Michael Greedo, who suggested that we give Bibles away at shows and then we decided as a band to put STRYPER stickers on them and then toss them into the crowd. We used to toss out 200 at every show and we used to take truckloads of them out on tour. They come 100 per box.

MR: A friend of mine has one. He was showing it to me the other day.

Michael: Yeah we used to do that at every show 200 of 'em. It wasn't intended as a gimmick but, it almost turned into one. People started referring to us as the Bible tossing band. We didn't mean or intend for that to happened but it did and the fact of the matter is everyone wanted those bibles man. There was never one left, we'd go out into the arena after the show and sign auto graphs and there was never one left on the arena floor.

MR: Do you think if you guys were Jewish you would've thrown the Torah? That would've knocked some people over. Did you ever see the size of those things-they're gigantic.

Michael: No idea, are they?

MR: They're like big scrolls

Michael: I doubt we would've throw them then

MR: You might have injured people.

Michael: Yeah, well, we did with the Bibles

MR: Did you hurt people?

Michael: Yeah on occasion. My brother used to tape them up so he could throw them from his drum set and they would keep flying like a frisbee. He threw some out pretty hard some nights and they hit people in the face. Not doing a lot of damage but, we had some people come up after the show and say, "Hey, you better watch it"

MR: *(laughs)* Did that go over well?

Michael: You mean hitting people in the face or throwing Bibles?

MR: Do you think people thought they were blessed if they got injured by the Bible?

Michael: I don't know. I don't think hitting them went over well but, throwing the Bibles went great.

MR: *(laughs)* I thought it was pretty cool because he (Jeff's friend) told me he had one and I said, "no you don't". Then he brought it in and I go, "you do! You're not lying to me".

Michael: I still have a bunch of them myself. I have two or three boxes of them here.

MR: Cool. Okay, back in the day you got to do a lot of partying, right?

Michael: We did or we didn't?

MR: You did.

Michael: Actually no, way back before we became Christians we did and then we became Christians when STRYPER was formed. 1983 to 1990 we didn't do any partying what so ever.

MR: No drinking or anything? (Does he hear me keep opening these beers? When I played the tape back it was on there pretty damn loud! (Sorry Mike!) Was Michael giving me a message? -Jeff)

Michael: Nothing, absolutely nothing. I think Tommy did and he just basically released that to the press 6 months ago-a year ago. Since 1988 he was drinking beer. During the "Against the Law" period 1991-1992 is when we all started drinking. We weren't going out and downing fifths of whiskey just beer mostly. The bad thing about that was for years we were saying don't drink, don't drink, don't drink.

MR: Right.

Michael: Then all of a sudden we were drinking. Being hypocritical and not working. Not a good thing to do. (Not even on week ends? -Jeff)

MR: I hear you. Is that true that C.C. DeVille was in your band at one time?

Michael: He was. He was in our band for about two days.

MR: Is he a Christian?

Michael: At the time he said he was but, I don't know what he's doing now. I haven't stayed in touch with him so, I don't know what kind of lifestyle he lives or what he's doing. He was in the band for 2 days.

MR: Did he leave on his own?

Michael: No, it just didn't work out. He was gonna work as a guitar player and personality-he's a great guy, really funny.

MR: He looks like a wild man.

Michael: A real high energy person but, we started talking about the yellow and black stripes and he wanted to do pink and purple.

MR: Are you making this up?

Michael: No, it's true. He wanted to do pink and purple stripes-he was real glammy, you know the whole Poison thing and we weren't into it. (That's right, STRYPER wasn't "glammy" at all...uhhh. -Jeff)

MR: Right.

Michael: He wasn't gonna work he didn't have the same vision. So, we just parted ways.

MR: So, he was pre-Oz?

Michael: Yeah, he was pre-Oz.

MR: That was pretty neat. I heard that and I thought, that can't be true.

Michael: Yeah it is.

MR: That's interesting. I bet a lot of people don't know that.

Michael: Yeah, most don't only a few do.

MR: Cool. Were you ever gonna do a Heaven and Hell tour with King Diamond?

Michael: Not with King Diamond but, with Motley Crue. That was back when they were about to release "Shout At The Devil" and we were about to release "To Hell With The Devil". We had a meeting with them and everything but, the numbers just didn't work out. I think they didn't want to take us out for this reason and we didn't want to go out for that reason. It was gonna be called the Heaven and Hell Tour. (That would've ruled!!! -Jeff)

MR: Did you ever meet King Diamond?

Michael: I haven't but, my brother has.

MR: Yeah, he did that Foundations Forum with him.

Michael: Right. I never met him though

MR: I bet that was an interesting conversation.

Michael: Yes, I think it was.

MR: *(laughs)* For what his beliefs are he seems like a nice guy.

Michael: He probably is. Probably very smart, very nice, very well read but, so is my brother.

MR: Right.

Michael: My brother is a smart guy and I'm sure it was an interesting conversation.

MR: I can imagine. I would have liked to have been a fly on the wall. (Or in his soup-Jeremy)

Michael: Oh yeah.

MR: How did you feel when you really made it on MTV and were on practically every hour?

Michael: Well, it was one of those situations where MTV was forced to play us. You could tell they didn't want to.

MR: You think?

Michael: Oh, I know.

MR: Really.

Michael: Yeah, because the record company was pushing MTV to play it and everything but had a hard time. It was like something that was not going to happen. People at MTV kept saying no we're not playing that, take the flag out, take the baby out and so on and so on With all the videos there were always problems with the videos. Finally they moved into the Dial MTV the countdown at 3 or 3:30 everyday after school, we started getting more requests than any other band. More than BON JOVI, MOTLEY CRUE, POISON-all those groups and they basically had to start playing the videos. That's when they started playing, "Calling On You" and then "Free" followed by "Honestly". Those three videos were all number ones for a long time. I think there was a limit of three months after that they pulled the video from the countdown. Two of those videos were number one for three months which was a rarity, that didn't happen too often. I think the only other bands it happened to were MOTLEY CRUE for one song and BON JOVI for one song. So, it was quite an accomplishment but, it was just something where MTV had to play them.

MR: I remember seeing it constantly, going yeah there are again-I love it.

Michael: Yeah, what happened was we did so well with the count down the requests just followed and kept going into an every hour thing. People were calling before the countdown after the countdown and at midnight and in the morning-that's how we started being on 24 hours and we were put into heavy rotation.

MR: It was always on it was really cool.

Michael: But, I'm talking about the very beginning before they were basically forced to play us.

MR: That's great though. Really cool.

Michael: Oh yeah.

MR: How about STRYPER songs and albums which were your favorites and least favorites? Why?

Michael: My favorite album would be "To Hell With The Devil" because as a whole it had everything. It had the sound for that time, it came out at the right time, it had the look for that time. It had the artwork and packaging for the time. (They sure had a lot of time on their hands, sheesh!-Jeremy) ***The production was incredible it was ahead of it's time*** (Oy! Stop with the time thing!!-Jeremy) ***When the album came out in 1986 no one had ever heard anything like that production wise. I remember it really blew a lot of people away. DJs and musicians hearing it were saying oh my gosh how did you get that kickin' drum sound. How did you get that guitar sound? You know that kind of thing. I think as a whole that is the best album STRYPER has ever done. The songs were there-we had the top 20 songs, it went platinum, just the whole thing. My favorite songs off of it would be "To Hell With The Devil", " Free", maybe "Calling On You" and "Honestly" is a favorite because of a lot of sentimental value to it.***

MR: You should hear me sing it *(laughs)*

Michael: Did you ask my least favorite STRYPER album?

MR: Yes

Michael: It would probably be "Against The Law" and I'll tell you why. Not musically, song wise or production. I think it's a great record, one of our best musically but, because of everything that went on behind the scenes. I would like to go back in time to change. Does that make sense?

MR: Uh huh. I love that record. (Jeff your nose is brown.-Jeremy) (No, it's yellow and black! -Jeff)

Michael: Me too. I love that record too, it's just the black cloud that went with it. The things that we did. I feel that because of that record, because of that time, there is no STRYPER anymore.

MR: What was that whole thing?

Michael: You can't go on stage year after year and tell people you're a Christian band and you make a stand for Jesus Christ and then come out with a record like "Against The Law". Then go on stage and tell people about Jesus and then go hit the bar after the show-it doesn't work...it just does not work. You know Christians are pretty much beat up in the world

(the crack of Jeff's beer can can clearly be heard)

and the second a Christian makes a mistake, the whole world knows about it. That's just the way it is. It was just a stupid and foolish thing for us to do. What happened was we were kind of beat up by the people in the church, saying you guys are not of God you're of the Devil. You're wrong for saying this. You're wrong by doing that. You can't look like that way, you can't do this. Year after year after year after year. We just took in and took in and after so many years of this we just rebelled. We got this attitude for "ATL" we're gonna show them attitude and that's kind of the vibe of the record.

MR: What's the rift that broke you apart? There must have been a rift that broke you apart.

Michael: No, from that record and tour everything just snowballed.

MR: You guys aren't fighting or something?

Michael: The record company fell apart. We went from arenas to clubs. We went from Platinum sales, not that numbers mean anything, to 200,000 units. So, it just went downhill. We were all burnt out from touring. The lifestyle was getting to us. We realized we had made some really major mistakes and started feeling this wasn't fulfilling. We signed with Hollywood Records because Empire went bankrupt during "ATL". We did a compilation record called "Can't Stop the Rock" and they put it out and didn't promote it so it did horrible. No, one at that label was behind us so they dropped us. Then after that I realized to myself, that STRYPER was over. I felt and to this day I believe that was the end.

MR: You mean there was no rift between you guys?

Michael: No, not really. Between now and then there have been some. Tim has said some things but, hopefully that will all be smoothed over. (Maybe he's upset that his new band blows! -Jeff)

MR: What's that? I've never heard any of this.

Michael: You know as much as I do. There have been a couple of inter views that Timmy did for "Get Signed" it's on the internet you can look it up and another magazine online. He went online and said I was an ego maniac and I kicked him out of the band. I was the reason he stopped playing bass.

MR: Silly talk.

Michael: Which is just totally and completely untrue. I went to those people in response, did an interview just to respond and not to bash him in return. You're welcome to go online to read his and mine to see. There really wasn't any bad vibes that I know of back then. I left the group first.

MR: They didn't have another singer did they?

Michael: They had a guy do a couple of shows by the name of Dale Thompson of the band Bride. I don't know if you ever heard of them.

MR: Never heard of them.

Michael: They're a Christian band. He's an excellent singer. He has kind of a Robert Plant vibe to him only more power. He's a killer singer like early Zeppelin but, with more guts. He did a couple of shows but, he didn't work out. Then Oz did some shows as lead singer. They went to Europe with him singing but, it didn't work.

MR: He sang backup on a lot of the stuff didn't he?

Michael: Yeah, Oz is a great singer, He's actually in a band now called SIN DIZZY. (This is the suckie band I speak of! -Jeff)

MR: Oh yeah, I heard about that. Isn't your brother in that band?

Michael: No, Tim is. He's playing bass and Oz is singing-he's not even playing guitar. He's really good. He's got a really gritty harsh sounding voice-he's good. After Oz sang a couple of shows they all just went their separate ways, that was back in 1991.

MR: I can't seem to get any of your solo records.

Michael: They are hard to find. I just released a new record over the internet. It's called "Truth". It's a really cool record. The thing is if you only like 80's type of music and you don't like any modern music you probably won't like it. It's kind of a mixture of the two. It's got an 80's flavor to it, there are backup vocals and twin guitar parts and stuff like that. Then it has a 90's flavor. The guitars are really effected like wah wah, phaser, talk box It's a really cool record.

MR: You haven't gone Pearl Jam on me...have you?

Michael: No no no

MR: Okay just checking

Michael: There is a song on there that's kind of PEARL JAM-ish but, no I think you'll dig it. There's some really cool stuff on it.

MR: Okay

Michael: So, I'm selling it over the internet now and there are a lot of companies interested in signing it or distributing

MR: This is you third solo album, isn't it?

Michael: The first two were with a Christian company called Reason and were only released in the Christian market. The first one went over pretty well. The first one sold over 250,000 units. Only in the Christian market-which is pretty good. STRYPER only sold 200,000 in the Christian market. So it did really well.

MR: You couldn't get it somewhere like Wal-Mart or something?

Michael: Oh yeah, Wal-Mart and Kmart had it.

MR: Really? I never saw it there or else I would've bought it.

Michael: You can't miss it. The first one had my face on the cover, Michael Sweet. It was available at Kmart, Target, Wal-Mart and even Tower Records.

MR: I wonder why I never saw it?

Michael: I have no idea.

MR: So, in comparison you have evolved from the STRYPER sound more into the 90's.

Michael: It is. You won't listen to it and say, this is dated 80's sounding record-cause it's not. I'm now speaking of my new one "Truth". It's modern but, it has flavors like a lot of these new groups. You don't hear backup vocals on these new records but, you do on mine. There are two and three part spreads. It's not an 80's record at all. It's a very experimental record. That's the best way I can describe it.

MR: So are you going to tour for this album?

Michael: I'm working on it. Once I get distribution and it's out there and available...I'm going to tour.

MR: Did you go on tour with the other two?

Michael: I did. The first tour was the big one. I probably did 80 or 90 shows throughout the country. We did a lot of clubs and theaters.

MR: You've got to talk to your publicist because I would've gone to see it but I didn't know about it. How do you like being a dad?

Michael: Oh I love it!! It's changed me a lot for the good. Helped me get my priorities in order-which they weren't and I wouldn't have it any other way. I love my kids. I have a son and a daughter. My son's name is Michael and my daughter's name is Lena.

MR: I know what you mean. I have a daughter named Tara and she's 7-it's great!

Michael: In a wonderful way.

MR: Do any of the kids ever ask you for your autograph like...a lot of their friends?

Michael: Yeah a lot of people still do.

MR: Yeah

Michael: On occasion-it's not like it was before.

MR: It's not like the Beatles or anything.

Michael: A lot of people still do.

MR: Tell me about this campground. Do you own or work there or what?

Michael: I don't own it. It's my father-in-law's. My wife grew up there, worked there, hung out there and spent her childhood there. It's called Maple Park. When we moved back here 3 years ago she started working there in the office again. She kind of runs the office which she did years ago. I started working there myself. I do a lot of things. I put out fires, because all fires have to be out at midnight. I show people to their sites and help them get hooked up.

MR: Do they know who you are?

Michael: Some people do. We have the solo records for sale in the store. Some people say I remember this guy from STRYPER, right...and they'll be talking right to me and not realize it.

MR: So, it's open to the public?

Michael: Yes it is.

MR: I'll have to go camping. Where is it?

Michael: It's in East Wareham, Massachusetts-Near Cape Cod.

MR: I'm not far from there. I'm from South Jersey. I'll have to come camping.

Michael: It'll be fun.

MR: I haven't been camping in years.

Michael: It's a lot of fun but, now that I'm getting back into music again I can go there for a couple of days to get away for a week end. I have two things going on. So, it's cool.

MR: I have one special request for you. Could you sing on my answering machine. Is this crazy?

Michael: No

MR: I wanted you to leave a message for my house and the magazine.

Michael: How would I do that?

MR: How do I want you to do it? I need you to get a 5 piece band, a tuba player...just kidding. If you have your guitar there or if you don't you just sing acapella but, just sing like..."You've reached *Metal Rules! Magazine*, home of Jeff and Maria. It'll be fun.

Michael: Could we do this? I'm totally into this but, could we do this at another time so I can work something out?

MR: Sure

Michael: Like maybe a melody and maybe a cool scream, I mean I'll do it too.

MR: Great sure!

Michael: I'll do it. I'd just like to work something out.

MR: Okay. I thought it might be fun. I had Steve Vai do a solo on there but he used some salty language and some people got offended so I had to take it off *(laughs)* It was funny but, my mother-in-law didn't like it.

Michael: You know I don't really blame her.

MR: It was great hearing him on there.

Michael: Yeah, I'll do it for you.

MR: Last thing, would you like to come to my wedding?

Michael: When is it?

MR: October 3rd.

Michael: Oh, I don't think I'll be able to make it.

MR: Really.

Michael: Yeah, that's cranberry picking time. We work 7 days a week then at the campground. Then I go to England to do some stuff musically there. So, I won't be able to.

MR: You know what my wedding song is don't you?

Michael: What is it?

MR: "All of Me".

Michael: Are you serious?

MR: Yeah, that's why I thought it would be cool if you could come.

Michael: So, you like the ballads too.

MR: Yeah, I love STRYPER after we got off the phone last night I had a STRYPER marathon.

Michael: Really.

MR: My fiancee was looking at me like I was a madman.

Michael: You'd really like the new album then.

MR: You'll have to send one out to me.

Michael: Give me you're address and I'll send one out to you tomorrow but, when you listen to it don't be expecting 80's stuff.

MR: No.

Michael: Otherwise you're gonna say, hey what's this?

MR: No, I'm really curious because I haven't heard anything from you since "ATL"

Michael: I think you'll like it. There are a couple of high energy rockers and some cool ballads. I think you'll like it.

MR: Cool as far as your ballads. On you website you have "Sweet Stories". Well, I have one...back when I was 17. I was in love with this girl who was 20 something. I was gonna try to win her over by singing "Honestly" to her. First of all I can't sing then I had all these Metal musicians ready to do it but, I couldn't get to someplace at the same time. It fell through but, just to let you know it's been in my heart for a long time.

Michael: You should Email that to the site. You've been to the site right?

MR: Yeah, I've been all over it.

Michael: We'll post it.

MR: What's your obsession with Dunkin' Donuts coffee and ice cream?

Michael: Oh man...it's because it's so bad for you. You know what I mean (I hear ya Mike.-Jeremy) ***That's why I like it.***

MR: I was reading the story of how this kid went to your house and you had ice cream and then went to Dunkin' Donuts for coffee. How many times did you go ?

Michael: Oh man, we went 4 or 5 times a day.

MR: No wonder you guys were up all night watching videos.
(**Editor's Note:** For the full story go to Michael Sweet's website at www.michaelsweet.com)

Michael: Yeah, we'd get it with the sugar and the cream.

MR: I was telling my fiancee last night. Have you ever watched them put it in the cup?

Michael: Oh yeah...they put 4 or 5 in a cup. That's why it tastes so good.

MR: Yeah it's like a quarter cup of sugar and cream. That's why it's so good. The first time I saw them do it I was like stop!!

Michael: At the rate I'm drinking that coffee I'll be dead in 5 years.

MR: I don't want to hear this. Here it is the most important question...was it a thrill of a lifetime to be in *Metal Rules! Magazine*?

Michael: Absolutely. It's always a thrill talking to people like you. You seem pretty serious about this and having fun. It's an honor to talk to you. Send me a copy.

MR: Okay but, I want to warn you there is some salty stuff in it.

Michael: That's okay, I can handle it.

There it is! I hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I enjoyed interviewing the man. I sent him an invitation to my wedding just the same. He sent it back saying he couldn't make it and sent a beautiful Wedding Card separately, that had some really nice personal thoughts from his wife and him. He still hasn't made that message yet. Oooh poopie (see Mike, I'm learning!) Go nuy the album TRUTH! Oh yeah...everybody loved "All of Me" as our wedding song!!!

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ADVERTISE YOUR...STUFF ON THE PAGES OF METAL RULES! MAGAZINE. WRITE TO JEFF FOR ALL THE SMATHERINGS

Scene Reports:

As you know I never do the concert reviews. I just do all the other fucking writing. I wanted to take a crack at it so here I go. Tell me if you like my style. If you don't I'll get the people that really know how to write to do it from now on.

November 15th Trocadero Philadelphia, PA
Final Prayer/Hammerfall/Death

Well, we got to the concert at about 3 because I was supposed to interview HAMMERFALL. That idea soon became plagued with problems so it didn't happen. Although while waiting around I got to meet some of HAMMERFALL. I had a nice but brief conversation with Oscar (Guitar) and brought him a present. I had heard he was a Wrestling fan so I gave him a box of WWF cards from 1991. Yeah, a whole box. Guess I'm a generous guy. He was very taken aback and very gracious. I think he was surprised when I knew who he was and even more surprised that I bought him a treat. I also gave him a copy of *Metal Rules! Magazine* that I'm sure he'll cherish forever or use as toilet paper on the tour bus. It would give him wicked anal papercuts though. Also while waiting I got to meet Chuck from DEATH! Very cool guy! I had Jeremy get a picture of us and of course I had Chuck hold a copy of my mag. When I asked him to do this he said "Let me look at this first!" He then turned to my friends held the mag proudly sidled his arm around my shoulder and proudly stated "How can I not hold up a magazine called Metal Rules?!!!!" He then begged me for my autograph and I had him kiss my ring. Well, maybe that didn't happen but he did say "This is really cool! Can I have it?" I then charged him $4 and handed to him after first signing it. Well, no what actually happened was I said that I had brought it for you. He happily walked away stopping about every 3 feet to read some more of it!! Very cool!! (You know, he doesn't sound like a rape victim. -Angus) Then Bonehead Jeremy (Kiss my sac Jeff!! -Jeremy) said that he's not sure if he got the picture. So, when Chuck walked by again I requested another photo and apologized for my incompetent staff (That's it I quit! -Jeremy) . Chuck said, "Are you sure? I'm not Alyssa Milano you know!!" It was great to hear that he really sat down with my mag when he brought up that obscure reference. We then had about 3 hours to kill while we waited for the show. We decided to take a 200 Mile trek to South Street to get a killer cheesesteak!! Well worth the walk even though Jeremy almost died of chest pains on the way, Yep, old dent chest had bad heartburn, what better for heartburn than a cheesesteak with onions, cheese and other shit on it washed down by a big ass soda!! That's using your head big boy!!! After the whiny walk back we waited in the stupid line and watched all the short guys arrive. Now, I don't mean short guys as in stature but the idiot's that never get cold so they never wear jackets or pants!! Pneumonia rules!!! The concert started with FINAL PRAYER. FINAL PRAYER is an average Death band with a guitarist that does bonus vocals to add to the singers screams. Strangely enough the guitarist had the better vocals. They elicited no real response as evidenced by the many faces stuck in the free Nuclear Blast catalogs that were given away at the show. Next up was HAMMERFALL!! Let me tell you, those fuckers are what Metal is all about! Synchronized guitar swinging, leather, chains, powerful vocals, double bass and killer riffs with two incredible dueling guitarists. I didn't know the songs, I had just received the CD one night before and could only listen to it once. An incredible performance that only a shitpop mongolid wouldn't enjoy. Of course one must have been present because some loser was yelling "You Suck!!" Either that or he was actually attracted to one of the guys in the band and was asking "You Suck?" Now I know what the fuss was all about!!! They are an essential band to see live and their new album "Legacy of Kings" is an album you must pick up!! Definitely one of my top ten favorite records of 1998!! They closed the show out with a Chinese fire drill where they all switched instruments and came out for the encore playing "Breaking the Law!" Oscar was even wearing the trademark Rob Halford biker hat as he belted out this tune. Yes, the guitarist was singing lead. Didn't I just fuckin' tell you that they switched instruments. Pay attention asshole. I'm writing this shit for your enjoyment. A quick wait and the headliners arrive, DEATH is in the house!! Yo! Yo! Yo! Sorry about that my mind was temporarily taken over by Puff Daddy!! DEATH played a set that was full of both Old and New numbers but there was problems. #1 was, in all respect to DEATH, they should have opened for HAMMERFALL. Yes, Chuck has payed his dues but there is no way to follow up HAMMERFALL. I would have enjoyed their set much more if they came on after FINAL PRAYER. The set turned out to be void of any life after the highly entertaining HAMMERFALL show! The Band basically stood their ground and played. His new band, I know one of the guys name's is Richard but they are interchangeable with all the other former heroes for hire that Chuck employs. I don't think they have begun to properly gell yet. Also what the fuck is up with Chuck's voice? As the former King and founding member of the Death Metal genre why does he now sing like Witchiepoo of H.R. Pufnstuf fame? I think the reason he started the CONTROL DENIED project is because his voice is shot! He let another take care of vocals with CONTROL DENIED so he could concentrate on his guitar. He should do just this. His guitar skills improve with each record and DEATH has become more and more of a Progressive Power Metal band with each album. This is his new passion and he should be allowed to pursue this without the fans pestering him for this lame DEATH reunion. C'mon the guy does a cover of "Painkiller" on his new record. Let him move on! We still have his smokin' fretwork right? Don't let me make you think they sucked. They didn't. But the old DEATH is gone and now he's just going through the motions and doing it just adequately enough to get by. All in all a great time but with a different stage order would have been phenomenal!

gaffi sticks INTERVIEW

Oh my God!! They're not Metal!!! So what, they're damn good, highly entertaining and funny as hell. Read on and laugh your nuts off!! Plus they are huge Metalheads! The interview is with Kevin Person (Bass and Vocals)

Metal Rules: Do you think anybody besides geeks will know where you got your band name from? (Incidentally I didn't know, so nobody can laughs at me.) Please explain how you came up with it and what were some of your other choices.

Gaffi Sticks: I would guess that only Star Wars fan boys would know the true origin of the name, but I really don't mind the fact that most people don't know what a Gaffi Stick is! We called ourselves the Hondas for a month or two. Then we had a poll as to some other names, I strongly suggested Gaffi Sticks (aka The Sticks by our fans) and some of the other choices were The Gargoyle Gang or Johnny Soko, Dominique, Gaffi McFalcon (don't ask), and Quiet Riot. Paul came up with a lot of weird Dune references...but that was just too weird for me.

MR: Your music sounds like a band that the gang from Melrose Place would go to see. Was that your vision? Who would you most like to bang on that show and why?

GS: I never watched Melrose, but I'd love to 'bang' that 14 year old girl with the squeaky voice from Party of Five. God damn she is so cute! I'd think it would be interesting if the people from Melrose dug us, then we would be popular! Honestly in real life I don't think they would dig us cause you can't really dance to our music. Our vision was to play music that was melodic, poppy, haunting, and emotional. Take the best elements from IRON MAIDEN and RICK SPRINGFIELD and you have the Gaffi Sticks...kinda.

MR: If you had a 14 inch penis would you do pornos? Wait a minute haven't you already?

GS: I would do a porno in a heart beat if I had a penis that size! I'd love to do a scene with Jenna Fine or Shane. That would be pretty cool. I would beat the shit of Peter North, T.T. Boy and Marc Wallace with my massive penis. That would be cool also, and then I would die of A.I.D.S. five months later.

MR: You are a timid little mouse in person (Get it? Person. Ha ha!! Uhhh...) how do you become this crazed ball of energy on stage?

GS: I dunno. Makes no sense to me. I just feel secure on stage. It is my second personality...it is not the real kevin, it is some kevin 'person'. But I think a lot of musicians are like that. Most are quiet & shy off stage and then turn into maniacs on stage. Sometimes I wonder if people think I am cool doing it...it just a crazy wacko. I can;t understand it...but I can't deny it. There are times before a show I tell myself that I am going to be calm and keep my cool. It never works though because by the 3rd song I am defying gravity and sticking my head through the ceiling tile.

MR: Do you prefer marmalade or jam and why?

GS: Jam is better. I often use it on our groupies. Marmalade is too expensive and too hard to spell.

MR: I know that you are a big Metalhead. What are some of your fondest Metal memories.

GS: I remember the first time I heard ANTHRAX's "Among the Living" record and I loved it. That and IRON MAIDEN I absolutely loved. MAIDEN was a major influence as well as Steve Harris bass playing. Also I remember the first time I heard MEGADETH, they were too scary for me. THE MISFITS was a big deal also. Amazing band.

MR: Isha oska poopen oleyhov papa?

GS: Wow...it has been a long time since someone has asked me that question. I would like to honestly answer you but it is too hard. In fact I am kinda getting sad right now. Time heals all wounds my friend, but never shall I be free of this lamentable curse. I am sorry...

MR: What do you consider the style of music you play?

GS: "I wanna be on Melrose Place" music.

MR: Why exactly don't you play Metal anyway?

GS: I used to. I used to play Metal/Punk stuff in high school and early college years. I never was much of a Metal bass player. Whenever I got into Metal jams with people I would just play an open E string for the duration of the song. It was kinda boring but it seemed to work for the most part. I wish I could play Metal...I'd be in a super fast Euro-Metal band!

MR: You have a song entitled "The Incredible Hulk." Is it because you're a comic book fan? What comics do you like? Do you think the GAFFI STICKS could beat the Hulk in a fight? How about Bruce Banner in a bake-off?

GS: The Incredible Hulk song was just a cool title and then I wrote the lyrics later based on the comic. No gray Hulk stuff...it was based on the beloved HULK SMASH days. The best line in the song for me is the opener "I'm giving you one more chance to go, you see what I have become." I love comic books. I used to be really into Elfquest, Judge Dredd, Gi Joe, and Robotech when I was younger. Now I read stuff like Creepy (trying to get a complete run of that), Preacher, Stray Bullets, Swamp Thing, Sandman, Copy Book Tales, Dork, Zombie World, and everything & anything by writer/artist Bruce Jones. With the collective powers of the Gaffi Sticks we could beat the Hulk by playing Celine Dion's complete collection of songs. I believe it would make him insane (as it would to any mortal). As for the bake off with Dr. Banner...it depends really. I'll have to look into that. We get asked that question all the time and I never really gave it any serious thought. Hmmm...

MR: What is the most insane experience that has ever happened to you at one of your shows?

GS: Well, one show I left my bass guitar in Paul's basement and had to rush all the way back there because we were the opening act. Another time I was jumping around so much I lost my balance and fell over backward into Rocco's drum set in the middle of a song. We trashed a dressing room one time with fake blood. In another band I was in we were threatened by a bunch of skinheads in the audience. Convinced that we were going to get our butts kicked no matter what we did, we made fun of them on stage, and they were about ready to come on stage to kill us. Before they had the chance we went right into our next song, a MISFITS cover song...and then the skinheads loved us and talked to us after the show. I dunno...good thing we didn't play a WINGER song.

MR: Have any groupies? Any over 13? Sleep with any? Any over 13?

GS: We seem to have a lot of fans that are underage...and it is very frustrating! We were playing a coffee house show and there were soon many cute girls in the audience I was going nuts cause I couldn't do anything, and also cause I couldn't remember girls looking that cute & hot when I was their age. One time many years ago I was with a 13 girl when i was 18...sigh...that was a tale, long ago...

MR: Do you wear big pants to hide your bony little ass?

GS: Absolutely. It allows me to steal things from stores. Ummm, well...I don't think my pants are baggy!

MR: Why are you so psychotic about your hair? Do you think just because your haircut is called a Prince something or whatever that you should be treated like royalty?

GS: A Caesar cut? I guess for me to be a true rock star I must stick to the pre-requisite of having cool hair. I guess. I dunno. I am going to be bald soon, I got to worry about it while I still can. It also helps too that I am a fucking nut.

MR: I also understand you're quite a breakdancer and voguer. Why?

GS: I am only represent in' know what i am sayin' cuz? when you from da hood, you do what cha can to survive, it is white sub-urban thing man, you wouldn't understand. I gots to stand and sport my mad props. uhhh, yeah...sorry about that. Yeah, and Paul swing dances every night. Mike also has been know to be a dancing guy. I don't know this for sure, but it has been rumored.

MR: Why should a Metalhead buy your tape? What can you offer them?

GS: Because if you play it backwards you can hear us play IRON MAIDEN's complete "Killers" album! We do an awesome cover of "Twilight Zone".

MR: Tell us about the new tape and give us a description of the sound and lyrics of all the songs but leave out that damn Hulk song because we already talked about that.

GS: We recorded it in a attic at this guy's place near our house. He was fun to work with & he played some guitars for us on one of our songs. It was our second recording together. Our first was done in our basement with a four-track. We did all the songs in one day, but the vocals, over dubs, and mixing would take us a ridiculous 3 months to complete! There are a few different guitar tones on there, Paul & Mike got to exploit a bunch of different amps that the recording guy had laying around. I got to use some bass effects also. The titles of the songs for the most part have nothing to do with the songs. The lyrics were written by all of us, we each contributed to each song. We also played naked, smeared with goat's blood and sang a few songs about Lucifer, the Son of Dawn...but they never made the album. I'd like to think though that he listened to us and smiled.

MR: Do you feel you have reached godliness by appearing in the incredibly dynamic Metal Rules Magazine? Why?

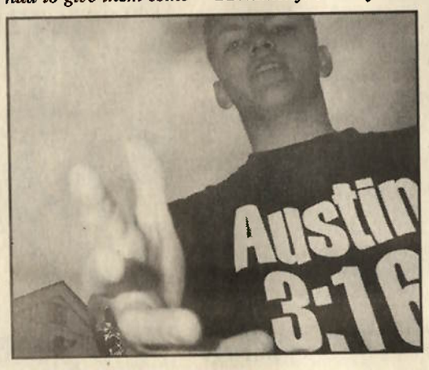
GS: Yes, I am going to have a talk with the rest of the band shortly after it is published that we need to break up now. We always said we would split once we made it big, and now we have. Thank you so much Jeff for helping us complete a dream. This is what we were striving for...and know I know that all the hard work, money, and years paid off! Holy shit...it fucking rules to be in Metal Rules!

MR: Any last words to my rough and tumble Metal Minions?

GS: Yes, please help us destroy the human race, we need your help! The tape is only $3 worldwide Contact: Gaffi Sticks, 5708 Mansion Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08109 USA Email: goblin10@pipeline.com

VWF INTERVIEW

These guys gave me a video and it was the most amazing and fucked up wrestling video I ever saw! Backyard wrestling? After watching it you'll wonder how these lads aren't dead. I had to give them some publicity! Here we go! The interview is with the two founding members Brian Botley and Dylan Kline!



Metal Rules: Tell us all about VWF and how it formed.

Dylan Kline: *The VWF is a small backyard wrestling federation that was created in 1997, by Brian Botley, Dylan Kline, Jeff Horner, and Mickey Reed, who was replaced by Mike Turner about a month later. We wrestle, just like the other top name federations, like the WWF, WCW, and ECW, only we don't have a ring to break our falls, we take the pain like men.*

Brian Botley: *Basically it all boils down to the fact that we were very bored*

MR: How old are you guys?

DK: *We all pretty much range from 15 to 19 years old.*

BB: *We've had 11 and 12 year olds wrestle as midgets too*

MR: Do you believe VWF is the wrestling wave of the future?

BB: *Most certainly!! If people would just realize they could be more entertained by watching us for a couple of bucks or even for free instead of spending tons of money at a WWF or WCW show....that's not a promise though.*

MR: What injuries have you guys received? Do you think it helps to smoke massive bones before the match to numb any unexpected pain? Anybody ever run home to Mom with a really bad boo boo?

DK: *We've gotten a lot of injuries. We've had 3 concussions, a fractured arm, a hyper-extended elbow, and have come just a little too close to a broken neck or two. I wouldn't know about smoking bones before wrestling, you might want to ask Lord Drakon. And as far as running home to mommy...to my knowledge, that has never happened, but you never know.*

BB: *Actually I think Mike has ran to mommy.*

MR: What Metalbands do you wrestle to? Listen to? Belly dance to?

DK: *Most of our wrestlers have metal bands as entrance music for their wrestlers. METALLICA, KORN, PANTERA, FURY OF FIVE, MORNING AGAIN, SEPULTURA, SLAYER, and more. But when it comes to belly dancing, I think we can all agree that Disco gets the best shakes.*

BB: *Yeah it's not pro wrestling without metal. It gets you in the mood to kick someone's ass. Is there VWF without belly dancing?*

MR: Why do you like touching each other so much?

DK: *Beats masturbation.*

BB: *I don't know about that...*

MR: Is this a cry out for help?

DK: *Most likely*

BB: *Yeah I'd say so*

MR: How many of you lads were breast fed in your youth?

DK: *That's one of the requirements for the VWF.*

BB: *Exactly. Our boy Stan was breast fed until he was 15*

MR: How many of you are still breast feeding?

DK: *Depends... you offering?*

BB: *Probably all of us*

MR: How many of you wish you could?

DK: *7*

BB: *Any good VWF superstar doesn't have to wish he could breast feed*

MR: Who is the toughest wrestler in your group and the biggest pussies?

BB: *The toughest? Obviously myself. Who else could've withstood 2 tombstone piledrivers that should've broken my neck. I'd also have to say Breadtruck and the Duke of Hazzard are pretty Hard Core guys. The biggest pussy? That one's a shoe-in. The big man Mike seems to get a serious injury at every card. Everyone else seems to be able to hold their own.*

MR: Would you rather body slam Fabio or Al Gore?

DK: *Yo Fabio, Bring Da Shit*

BB: *Yeah right, have you ever seen Fabio in that I Can't Believe It's Not Butter commercial? That guy's built to last.*

MR: Name the first thing that comes to your mind when I say...

1. Poop:
   DK: *John Bush,*
   BB: *Metallica (new)*
2. Metal:
   DK: *Metal Rules! Magazine,*
   BB: *T-1000*
3. Rectum:
   DK: *Leonardo Dicaprio*
   BB: *Metal Edge*
4. Wrassle:
   DK: *Deliverance*
   BB: *Ted Turner*
5. Levis button fly jeans:
   DK: *John Bush*
   BB: *Utopia*
6. Slayer:
   DK: *Kerry King*
   BB: *South of Heaven*
7. A good piece of taffy from the Shore:
   DK: *Rectum*
   BB: *Sick*
8. Moisturizing liquid:
   DK: *John Goodman*
   BB: *Right hand*

MR: Do you not allow yourself to bop your baloney before a match?

DK: *Hell no, in some cases, it's required.*

BB: *You know how your supposed to take a bullet out of the chamber before you go out with some girl? Same deal. Well at least that's what some filthy guy told me* (It wasn't me, honest!! -Jeff)

MR: Any of you guys on roids or wrap yourself up in Betty Boop costumes and skip to your loo?

BB: *Yeah right, have you seen any of us? We're ripped like a pair of Bruce Banner's pants. But to answer the question, Horner's the only one who still sticks the needle in the ol' asscheek. As for Betty Boop costumes, they're too expensive for our budget. It's easier to just skip to our loo's while wearing nothing but our grandma's panties after pouring steaming hot quaker oats down them and screaming profanities at the neighbors pets. And that's just the third match.*

MR: Are you flushed with excitement over your appearance in ***Metal Rules! Magazine?***

DK: *I feel like a 9 year old experiencing his very first erection.*

BB: *I think I am experiencing my very first erection*

MR: I hear you have some of your tapes for sale. Tell us about them?

DK: *We have 10 tapes for sale: "Christmas Carnage", "Wanted Hard", "Horse Party '98", "Slippery When Wet", "License To Thrill", "Bologna Sandwich (With Mustard)", "Wanted Hard 2-Even Harder", "Stiff With A Vengeance", "Hung Well," and "2 Moist Turkeys and a Dry Hump". They are $10 each.*

BB: *Yeah these tapes are good, even if your not into wrestling you'll find them pretty damn funny. So don't waste your money on ANTHRAX's new album, waste it on us. At least we're not on a rap label!*

MR: Tell us about your web site.

DK: *We have two different websites. The main one is the Official VWF Homepage: http://members.aol.com/vwfvenis/index.html another one is the VWF Shop, that is where you can go to buy tapes and shirts: http://members.aol.com/jonkey13/index.html*

BB: *Speaking of shirts, anyone out their cool enough to make shirts for us? Bluegrape if you're listening...*

MR: What else do you guys do for fun?

DK: *Sit... does TV count as a hobby?*

BB: *Listen to Metal of course. I also like to read Scud: The Disposable Assassin. Which I can conveniently purchase at Comic Crypt on the White Horse Pike in Oaklyn. Oh yeah we have a band too. It's called DOUCHE TRIBE and we have a web page: http://members.aol.com/vwfchud/dtribe.html –We really suck*

MR: Are you taking any applications to join? What are the requirements?

DK: *We don't have applications, if you want in, chances are that you'll be in. There aren't many requirements, just to have a little dose of skill.*

BB: *We want famous people!! Vanilla Ice this means you!*

MR: Any last words to me or the incredibly hip fans of ***Metal Rules Magazine?***

DK: *To buy VWF tapes, send $10 to: VWF, 61 E. Greenwood Ave, Oaklyn, NJ 08107 USA. Great zine ya got here.*

BB: *Yeah, thanks for giving us the chance to be in your zine. That's pretty damn cool of you. Check us out and keep buying Metal Rules!! One last thing, if anyone out there knows the Sepultura guys tell them they're my favorite band and I think their new album kicks ass!! Great show in Philly with VOD and Earth Crisis. And we have to thank all the VWF people: Mike, Jeff, Jack, Oscar, Matt, Ryan, Nick, and Stan. And Lisa would like to say that The Exploited is the greatest band ever. Support your local backyard wrestling and 'zines*

XIBALA INTERVIEW

Slovakia is a really cool name for a country and it's really far away. Good enough reason to interview them right? Actually, they rule! The interview was done with Karol Gerba (Guitar and Vocals). No, he's not an ugly girl-just a dude stuck with a feminine name. Read on...

Metal Rules! What the fuck does Xibala mean?

Xibala: Xibala is a name of the Underground taken from Maya mythology and also there are some similarities to the Milky Way for the Ancient Mayans. (What??? -Jeff)

MR: Describe your music to the kids.

Xibala:Hey Kids! This is the music you should be listening to. It's no shit! Don't FUCK with us!!! Just kidding.

MR: What made you begin your CD with the Theme from Dracula?

Xibala: When I was a little boy I read Bram Stoker's Dracula. It really scared me. It was my favorite book until today. After I saw the Coppola's Dracula film and heard the soundtrack I decided that I wanted to try to make it into the intro with Metal guitars.

MR: What the heck is going on there in Slovakia that there is so much great Metal being churned out?

Xibala: Sorry...I don't understand the words, "Heck" and "Churn". There are a lot of young and old Metalheads here in Slovakia. They are really interested in Metal Music and maybe they know more about it than Americans or anyone else in the world...I don't brag myself.

MR: Where the hell is Slovakia?

Xibala: Slovakia is near the Czech Republic, Poland, the Ukraine, Hungary and Austria. It's pretty much in the middle of Europe. There is roughly 5 million people living in Slovakia

MR: If I slept over your house and I stole all your soap and towels, like I do whenever I go anywhere, would you bill me or wait till the next time I came over and just slap my fanny blue?

Xibala: I would not bill you. Maybe you have a psychological disease...you should see a doctor. (I already have! -Jeff)

MR: What made you do a ballad? Do the girls scream with excitement when you croon to them?

Xibala: I wrote "I Want You To Stay" because of a pretty girl I fell in love with. She had a great figure and I had sex with her...only once. But, it's over between us. That song is an experiment in which I tried to do a melodic slower ballad. Some like it and some don't–it's up to the individual.

MR: How about that Rap tune that you do? Do you guy's listen to Rap over there? Can you possibly relate to the lyrics?

Xibala: I don't really like Rap music, it's boring to me because I don't understand Black.English lyrics. We did "Feel Like Shit" for fun. It was a joke. We had a little help from our friends in a Rap band called N.N.P. (here in Kosic) with scratches and the middle Rap part. I do enjoy bands like FISHBONE, FREAKY FUNKIN', WEIRDOZ, MORDRED and so on...

MR: You also work for Metal Hammer CS. What is the deal with all these different Metal Hammers? Are they all connected some how or is it just an eerie coincidence? Is it the same magazine and just translated into the Countries it's send to? This is really troubling me and I'm going to cry. Please help.

Xibala: Metal Hammer CS has it's own original logo. It's not a translated version of the British or German Hammer. We are not connected in any way. It's our own individual work. We have our own materials and we cooperate with labels such as Metal Blade, Century Media, Black Mark, Inside Out, Modern Music and many other smaller labels. We also interview bands, mostly over the phone.

MR: What kind of food do you eat over there?

Xibala: There is a lot of different kinds of food here to eat...for example hamburgers from McDonald's (oh shit...), Brindzove Halusky, Vyprazane Kuracie Prsia S Opekanymi Zemiakmia Zeleninovou Oblohou, Palacinky (Pancakes), Huraci Stroganov, Kung Pao So Sojoveho Masa S Rizou, shall I go on? (Man, I love all that stuff. -Jeff)

MR: What are your favorite Metal magazines and fanzines?

Xibala: Metal Maniacs, Metal Edge, Rock Hard, Metal Shock, Metal Hammer...I can't remember anymore...METAL RULES! Yes!!!

MR: Do you have hookers over there? How much do they charge? Ever had one lick your armpit?

Xibala: Who's the Hooker? (TJ!! -Jeff)

MR: What is the popular alcohol of choice for you and the band? Do you smoke dope? Will the police hang you by your testicles if caught with the whacky weed?

Xibala: We drink alcohol occasionally. Nobody smokes in the band-no weed, no drugs, no whores. We like beer, wine, liquors...weed is illegal but people smoke it on the streets or in bars. The Police can't check it out. (They're too busy eating Huraci Stroganov. -Jeff)

MR: What do you guys do for a living? Is it a living?

Xibala: We have jobs but it's a miserable. It's a shitty living here if you don't have enough money. We often can't buy something we need for living or playing...but, it's different

MR: What are the biggest bands you have ever played with? Did they treat you well or like dog shit?

Xibala: We haven't played with any big bands yet if you mean bands like METALLICA and such...(That's right they're big, BIG sell-outs! -Jeff)

MR: Are you working on a new album? What kind of direction are you going with?

Xibala: Everything depends on money. I'd like to make a great Metal album. There would probably be similar songs. Maybe a little heavier, more powerful but, melodic with slightly simpler drum parts. I found a new singer cus I wanted to devote more time to my guitar playing.

MR: Would you rather make whoopee with a emu or cuddle with the guys from Erytrosy? (Interviewed in issue #2. Cool Grind!! -Jeff)

Xibala: The ERYTROSY guys are cool. I can hang out with them more frequently than an emu.

MR: Are you ever going to tour America?

Continued on page...44

SAVAGE Email:

Once again here's the Savage Email for all to enjoy!! We're having a shortage in the Email department, especially savage. If anyone out there has any actual savage email from bands feel free to submit them to our Savage Email department. We'll check 'em out and if we deem them worthy we'll print them in one of the upcoming issues. What the hell are you waiting for!? Start writing!! We start off with Kevin from Quiet Riot and end with Jeff. Let's read...

Hey Kevin!

I heard you recently played some nude-fest. You could have clothed at least one chick with your weave. That would be cool.

Jeff

(The reply)

Dear Jeff,
Fuck off.

(Jeff continues...)

That was clever. You know it takes creativity to sell records, that's probably why you don't sell them anymore. Wasn't your biggest hit a cover song? Man, you have talent. Please put that hockey mask back on so we don't have to look at you anymore.
Jeff

At last Quiet Riot answers...

(The rebuttle)

Jeff-

We sell 4,000 copies a month of our first cd alone. The entire catalog continues to sell nicely, thank you. I make a great living and have little time to send nasty mail to others as you do. Get a life, a girlfriend or something and please don't e mail me anymore.

Jeff sez...

Dear Kevin,
My wife is going to be really sad to know that I have no life! She's been fucking a corpse! But, she's going to be really pissed if I get a girlfriend. Now leave me alone with your nasty Emails!!

Jeff

You can reach good old Kev at: qrigt@aol.com

GLENN'S MOVIE CORNER

RANA QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS

... ohhhh the title just makes me all goose pimply. When Jeff gave me the honor of reviewing this modern masterpiece of film I snapped at the chance to do it. I'll quote from the back of the video cassette to give you a taste of the excitement you're in store for. *"RANA; Queen of the Amazon, follows the exploits of Rhonda Harold during the turbulent 1940's. Rhonda comes to the Amazon to get away from civilization, only to come face to face with the evil Nazi doctor, Ilsa Von Todd! After her first encounter with Von Todd, Rhonda becomes the jungle woman known as Rana, Queen of the Amazon, and the protector of the jungle."* The acting and sets are top notch, and the locals they use truly make you think they are in the deep dark recesses of the Amazon jungle. I can't believe how great this tape truly was, and how I'd never heard of it before. Now it's time for a reality check.

This is quite possibly the worst piece of shit I've ever seen in my life. My apologies to Little Johnny Weber, (I know you only got a carton of cigarettes to write this waste of video tape but come on, this is truly sad.).. It looks like it was shot at Cooper River Park, and in someone's garage. I didn't know the Amazon was over run by oak trees. The sound is awful, you can barely hear what anyone's saying over the insanely loud bird chirping. The acting is on par with a bad porno movie, except there's no nudity. The actresses (if you can call them that) all look like transsexual bikers, and the guys are all fat
feminine tubs of goo. Nudity wouldn't even have saved this. The special effects are where this gem really shines though. The zombie makeup was spectacular. I never knew that gluing corn flakes and bologna to a guys face and painting it white could make them look so much like a killer zombie. And the mutated snake, what wonders you can do with a flexible dryer vent and some plaster of paris. Stick a guys arm in it and look out, because it was so realistic I almost soiled myself. Watch out for that deadly quicksand that looks like a big puddle filled with dog crap, it's knee deep, you could sprain an ankle in that.

All of this aside I'll have to admit we were laughing are asses off during the whole thing, even though we fast forwarded through most of it. So if you want to see a fat chick get choked for about 45 minutes on and off and flop around in a big puddle of animal feces for about 20 minutes doing her best Helen Keller impersonation, and you like to watch fat feminine guys molesting ugly chicks this is the film for you. If you even have a semblance of a life you can most likely find something better to do than watch this turd.W.A.V.E. PRODUCTIONS P.O. Box 83, Deerfield, NJ 08313
Email: waveids@aol.com
Web: http:/www.cfw.com/~waveids

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Samantha Parker
Photographer
1•215•387•0386

REPORT Honeymoon

"This is my report for my third grade summer vacation"..... oops, sorry kids- time warp. Anyway, this is my "Honeymoon Scene Report" for Metal Rules! Issue #4: The Wedding Issue. After a day full of activity (my wedding), a limo whisked me and my new hubby away to a lovely hotel near the Philadelphia Airport. After being too pooped to pork, we just decided to get some sleep. Four hours later we were up and running about on our way to our week of paradise. On the plane, a lady in front of us snored louder than a Mack Truck which made us burst into fits of laughter. After trying to wake her by snapping our disposable camera flash in her face, we just sat back and enjoyed the ride. After arriving in Orlando, Florida, we got on the shuttle to the Carnival cruise ship. Jeff proceeded to take his sock off and put it in his mouth and told me to take a picture of him (Yes, I actually have visual proof of these antics). The ship was unbelievable! We couldn't wait to board! The only setback was that we had to wait 2 1/2 hours in line standing up while the previous passengers were departing and we still had to go through customs! After finally getting to our cabin, we went to eat something. Now, one thing I need to make clear- on a cruise ship, there is one thing that there is never a lack of- FOOD. They literally feed you six times a day! And for those times when there are no buffets, sit-down meals, or midnight smorgasbords with foods from foreign lands, there is a 24 hour pizzeria on board with everything from pepperoni to goat cheese and olive pizza (I'm not kidding about the goat cheese)! I must say, it was a good thing to have with the bottomless pit for a husband having to eat every two hours! As for the rest of our cruise, it was very relaxing and a lot of fun. We went to the sit down dinners they had every night and we met some very nice people. We had 4 other couples at our table from all over the U.S. ranging from honeymooners like us to couples who have been together for a long time and just wanted time away to relax on a floating resort. Of course, every night every one waited with bated breath to hear Jeff regail us with his daily antics. You mean Jeff talk about himself? Nah. The staff on board was also very nice and helpful. Your every wish was their command. The really neat part was that they literally came from all over the world- from the Caribbean to Croatia! We really got a kick out of hearing all the different accents. The only person that slightly annoyed us was the cruise director- a skinny little Steve Urkel impersonator with a smart mouth. He was treated like a celebrity on the ship (he better had taken advantage of it) by the other passengers probably because he walked around like a diva in heat. We had a lot of adventures on our cruise ranging from Jeff mooning the frolicking dolphins outside our cabin window to him doing the Macarena with the waiters in the dining room in front of half the ship. The ports we docked in were just as cool. The water in the Caribbean is so warm, clear, and beautiful! We frolicked in the sand on two different beaches and one of them was a man made beach at the most gorgeous hotel I had ever seen! This hotel was so huge it had fountains on every floor and it had its' own underground aquarium! Someone told us that the lagoon for the hotel beach was connected to the aquarium, and if we had crackers we could probably feed the fish when we waded out into the lagoon. Sure enough, halfway out into the lagoon, there was Jeff sprinkling cracker crumbs into the water and a school of little, brightly colored fish came to feed the crackers off of Jeff's pee-pee. Back on the ship that night at dinner, we all sat around the campfire while Jeff spun one of his yarns about the day's events, when one of the campers said " Did you know that the sharks swim over there,too?" Well, I think it's safe to say that Jeff will never go near a beach again! So, after 4 days of eating, swimming, playing, gambling, relaxing, lovin',etc., it was time to end our cruise and go on to Disney World! The fun never stops, does it

kids? So after giving our cruise director a swift kick in the teeth, we headed off the boat. After being shuttled like cattle to Disney, we checked into our room. Sheesh, talk about the major possibility of getting lost! Disney World should have its' own zip code! Good thing there were shuttle buses that picked you up at your resort and took you to whatever park you wanted to go. We went to Disney MGM Studios first. There were shows to see, characters to meet, exhibits to see, and rides to go on (I don't do rides that go high or go fast.) One good thing about Disney is that there plenty of inside rides that stay close to the ground, go slow, and have plenty of cool Animatronics. That night we went to Pleasure Island, which is sort of an adult theme park in Disney. There are a variety of clubs and restaurants, and also some pretty neat stores. We had dinner at a pizzeria owned by a world famous chef, but we wished that he took our order instead of the dumb-ass who did. I thought Jeff was going to jump over the counter and filet his mignon! We then got our picture taken with a seven foot horse with jeans and a cowboy hat on, and then we went back to our hotel room and passed out. The next day we went to Magic

Kingdom. With coffee in hand to keep us wired, we braved the fury of tourists scurrying though Cinderella's Castle to enjoy the heart of Disney. We did a lot of walking and riding rides (Jeff rode on most of them alone-you know why), but Jeff really tricked me with one ride. After arguing with him at MGM because I wouldn't go with him on the Tower of Terror ride, he walked me onto a "train ride". After waiting a half an hour in line, he declined to tell me that this ride was called Runaway Train! After getting pissed, I decided maybe it wasn't so bad. Bad decision. I had my eyes shut so tight and I had a death grip on the safety bar, all I could feel was my body being whipped from side to side and all I could hear was Jeff going

"Wheeee!" beside me. I didn't talk to him for two hours after that, so in the meantime he waited in line and went on the log flume while I sat off in the distance and put my intestines back where they belonged. After we closed the park we went back to the hotel, laid on top of each other , and passed out. Next morning, our final destination, Epcot. Another early morning coffee to fuel us, and off to maybe learn something while we have fun. After doing the staple Spaceship Earth, we looked at more exhibits which consisted of tasting soft drinks from other countries that tasted like ostrich pee-pee and learning about fossil fuel, and went on rides that took us through the human body in a tiny spaceship whipping and rattling us. Our most exciting experience was when we were in an exhibit called Innovations. We walked right into a show for the Disney Channel being filmed starring.....N*SYNC! Yes, that dreamy pretty-boy band of the 90's was in our very presence! So, we left. As we walked outside, we saw five hundred fourteen-year-olds either dressed half-naked or fully dressed in something you could completely see through, all waiting to catch a glimpse, get an autograph or picture, or be a roadie slut for these cultural icons. While my back was turned, Jeff tried to convince a herd of teeny-boppers that he was the newest member of N*SYNC by moonwalking and poppin' and playing air-guitar. After the laughter died down, Jeff lowered his head and joined me to continue our Epcot adventure. After visiting Epcot's World Showcase and seeing the fireworks spectacular at the end of the night, we went back to our room to prepare for our trip home tomorrow and back to reality.(Plus, Jeff was running out of underwear.)We didn't want to come home, but Jeff didn't want to wear my underwear (this time.) When we arrived back in Philadelphia the next afternoon, we grabbed our luggage off the turnstile, called a cab and waited while Jeff tried to pick Paul Anka's nose on a sign, and went back home to Voorhees, NJ to start the rest of my life as Mrs. Maria Rappaport. And oh, what a life it's been so far!

Death Angus Continued from...22

MR: Do you feel Satan has truly blessed you giving you coverage in the impeccable *Metal Rules Magazine?* Why?

Lord Epidoral: No, but the Pope said I had a pretty mouth once.

Esophagus:"mrf nif iff mutt ug moo"

Lord Epidoral: I have no idea what Esophagus said he's eating-again.

MR: Any last words or pure evil to sell???

Esophagus/Lord Epidoral: Well, we have a plethora, a veritable smorgasbord if you will of "EVIL" merchandise. The 1st item up for bid is our lovely Bag o' Death. Inside you'll find darkness & despair (it's empty-shhh) Next we have the Evil Hypnotic Purple Pick. If you can say that five times fast without spitting it's yours. Lastly we have the beautiful Box of Intolerable Evil. We're not sure what's inside. Now how much would you pay for all these various items of evil? The items that all TRUE Black Metal fans should have. 50 dollars? 80 dollars? NO! All this for just $9.95 plus $400 shipping and handling.
Contact: death_angus_music@yahoo.com Order now and as a special bonus well give you whatever contents we find in between Gastritis's chins!!

Thank you Jeff and may Odin poke out your eye.

Holy Mother Continued from...20

MR: Going back to a question I should have started with how do you describe the HOLY MOTHER sound?

HM: Holy Mother's sound is aggressive modern Metal. It shows a lot of influences of Classic Metal bands, but we try to keep the ideas fresh, and try not to lose our pissed off feel. Heavy Metal has been torn, twisted, hair sprayed, buried, exploited, mechanicalized, mutated, chewed up and spit out, and labeled... Power... Death... Doom...Gothic... Glam... So now we have TRUE METAL...no-fuckin-frills. Just ripping chords, powerful screaming melodies, freight train double kicks, Back to the head bangin' fist raising aggression relief that IS Heavy Metal...that is HOLY MOTHER's sound.

MR: Are you working on a new album. Are you going to continue the type of Metal you do or are you going to head in an opposite direction?

HM: We finished recording our new CD, titled "Criminal Afterlife", in August and it will be released in February of 1999. The sound should continue where "Toxic Rain" left off but, we do explore new avenues-always maintaining the heaviness and aggression. The lyrical content of the CD is slightly different in that it talks a lot about death, dying, armageddon and topics like this, where "Toxic Rain" was a lot about war and personal battles.

MR: Do you feel you have truly reached a climax by appearing in Metal Rules! Magazine? Why? Where can you go from there?

HM: This zine is definitely an experience. If I hadn't talked to you personally on the phone, I would have thought you were totally wacked but, now I understand that it is really everyone else that is wound just a little too tight. I don't think any other interview suggested using a coffee stirrer to remove frog still born fetuses...but anyway, this magazine and HOLY MOTHER definitely have one thing in common...the need for world domination...see you at the top!!

MR: Tell us about any stuff you have for sale.

HM: Stuff for sale...you can contact the band at HOLY MOTHER, PO Box 169, Selden, NY 11779. The website is clm@clm.de-this is the record label and from here you can link to the Official Holy Mother Web Site. This site is in German, so if you want to pur chase the CD in America it is best to use the PO Box address. The CD is $12 and we'll throw in some stickers. The tour shirts won't be ready till February.

MR: Please, some last minute words to all the Headbangers and Rivetheads out there and to all the other customers from my store that I force to buy my magazine.

HM: Rivetheads????? I like that!!! I hope the metal scene in America grows to be what it is in Europe. I believe that there will always be Heavy Metal because there will always be pissed off kids. They need to find their release in the greatest true music of all time...Metal. Look for HOLY MOTHER this year!! ...but NOT on MTV...

Xibala Continued from...40

Xibala: Wake up man!! This dream can't possibly come true!

MR: What are your favorite comic books?

Xibala: I don't really have the time to read comic books. MY whole life is a big comic book but, without the fun sometimes.

MR: Please talk some shit about anybody you would like to.

Xibala: I have no idea (I do! Bone up on your English slang! -Jeff)

MR: When are you going to let the world know about your affair with Hillary Clinton? And yes Anal sex counts.

Xibala: Oh man, Clinton's affair is pretty boring. I've heard that he's got a really small penis. I think it's cool that Larry Flynt supports him.

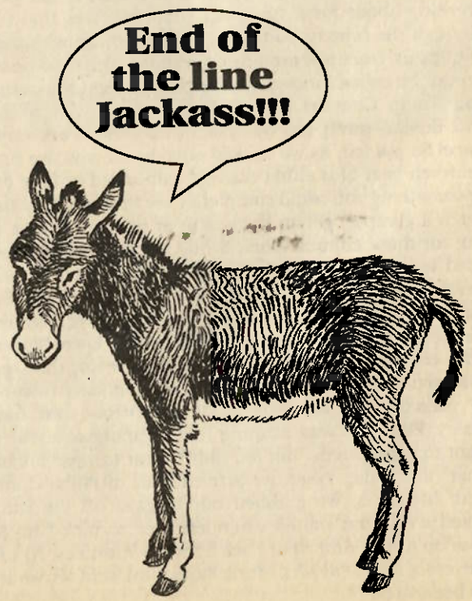
MR: Are you you going to pass out with excitement over the fact that you are in *Metal Rules! Magazine*?

Xibala: Yes, it's exciting for me and I really appreciate it. Thanks a lot man. I wish you luck with your 'zine...you do a great job.

MR: Any last words.

Xibala: It's great that some American Metal fans can get information about some fucking Metal band called XIBALA. If you want to hear our music send me a blank tape and I'll record it for you for free. I love you all (just pretty women). See you on the other side!!!

Contact: Karol Gerbea, Hemekova 15, 040 11 Kosice, Slovakia



The EDITORS' Page...
...the final chapter

Dearly Beloved,

We are gathered here today to tell to you all that Josh has been demoted to 'Artist'. He has been ritualistically stripped of his title and repeatedly slapped about the head and neck with a domesticated sea bass. Although we don't condone this particular use for sea bass, it does however, make a wonderful quiche...and now Josh's opinion on the matter...

"THAT DIRTY MONKEY GRABBIN MOTHER [CENSORED] CANDLE WAXER!!! BOTH HE AND ODIN CAN PUCKER UP AND KISS THE SPACE BETWEEN MY BROWN EYE AND MY SWEATY NUT SAC!!! [CENSORED] THAT!!!!"

ahem

It appears that my new job will entail: washing Garden Gnomes, drawing sick and twisted flyers for the magazine, taking out Jeff's trash, spot illustrations, finding words that rhyme with Delores and becoming Jeff's personal foot rest while he answers his Email.

So...

..."Why is this issue late?", you might ask. Well, we went on vacation. Yeah, Jeff gave us his credit cards and told us to have fun. So, we snatched the cards up and flew to Tijuana. As soon as we landed we were greeted by gorgeous women wearing grass skirts and flowers. Amongst the swarm, and God knows there was a lot, was one of the Canadian Mounted Police-a "Mountie" if you will. He said he was our driver. So, we followed him back to his horse and off we road to the finest Saki Bar in the land. The rest of the vacation is a little fuzzy. We vaguely remember a pair of sea otters swimming in the bath tub. We also found a receipt that only said "2 Asian Cocksmacks". Boy, I gotta tell ya, that was a blast!!

...Huh...Who are the girls in the picture? They're just a couple of hot chics we found a picture of. Pretty cool huh?

So, there it is. That's all the Officials would let us release at the time. Hope you enjoy Metal Rules! Magazine as much as we don't.

Well...I sure am gonna miss Josh. <sigh> But, hell, at least it's not me. Heh heh. Huh...what's that? WHAT!?

WHY YOU DIRTY MUTHA [CENSORED]!!!! JUST WHO IN THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!!!! I FART ON YOUR PERSON!! EVIL PARROT DROPPING PASTY FACED TIT!!!!! YOU CAN'T REPLACE ME!! I'M INVINCIBLE!!!!! WHY FOR 5 BUCKS I'D GIVE YOU AN OPEN HANDED SLAP TO THE COCK!!!

We at Metal Rules! Magazine would like to apologize for the language contained here. Those who were in charge have now been sacked. There will no longer be profanity used on the Editors' page, except for the occasional tit, three ass, four clitoris' and a good fuck thrown in there for good measure. With that in mind we will continue to bring you the quality entertainment of the Metal scene that you've come to expect from Metal Rules! Magazine. We hope you have enjoyed this issue. If not well, then piss off!!

Metal Rules! Magazine is made in the USA